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MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FROM A. D. 1859 TO A. D. 1869, INCLUSIVE.

New School Branch. Vol. II.

NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED BY THE STATED CLERK, 1859–1869.
[E. F. HATFIELD, D. D.]
PHILADELPHIA:
REPRINTED, PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.
1894.

PREFACE.

THIS volume of the *Minutes* of the General Assembly is published under the following authorization:

The General Assembly (*Minutes*, 1884, p. 121) appointed "The Stated and Permanent Clerks a Committee to report to the next General Assembly upon the advisability of reprinting any or all of the Minutes of the General Assembly between the years 1836 and 1869, said Committee to serve without expense to the Assembly."

The Committee reported progress (*Minutes*, 1885, p. 684), recommending, *inter alia*, "that the expense of this republication be borne by the Board of Publication, and that the number of copies to be issued be left to the judgment of the Committee to be appointed to take charge of the matter."

The report was adopted, and the Assembly directed that the Stated and Permanent Clerks be the Committee to have charge of the printing of said Minutes. The Committee was continued by the several Assemblies from 1886 to 1893.

The plan of publication adopted is the following: The Minutes for 1836 and 1837 have been added to the volume already published, covering the period from 1821 to 1835, thus making complete the Minutes of the supreme judicatories of the Church from 1705 to 1837, the year preceding the division; the Minutes of the Old School General Assembly from 1838 to 1869 have been published in four volumes, and the Minutes of the New School General Assembly, for the same period, in two volumes, thus completing the republication of the Minutes from 1705 to 1869.

This is the second volume of the New School Minutes.

Acknowledgment is hereby made of the cordial co-operation and efficient service, rendered in the whole undertaking by the Officers of and the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work.

WM. H. ROBERTS,
WM. E. MOORE.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1859.

Wilmington, Del., May 19th, 1859.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, at the city of Wilmington, Del., on Thursday, the 19th day of May, 1859, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Central Presbyterian church, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Tim. 3 : 1 : "This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly: [4]

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	John Bradshaw, John R. Herrick.	
2. *Troy*,	Peter Gordon,	William P. Bliss.
3. *Albany*,	Eber M. Rollo,	Hon. John O. Cole (2).
4. *Columbia*.		
5. *Catskill*,	Edward Stratton,	Lawrence Winne.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	R. Richard Kirk.	
2. *Watertown*,	Calvin Yale,	Roswell T. Lee.
3. *Oswego*,	Edward Lord (2),	Hon. M. Lindley Lee, M. D. (2).
4. *Utica*,	William E. Knox,	Charles McLean,
	Phil. H. Fowler, D. D.,	Gilbert M. Gifford (2).

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva*,	Fred. E. Cannon, D. D., Sam. H. Gridley, D. D.,	Daniel D. Johnson.
2. *Bath*,	Stephen Vorhis,	Nathaniel C. Taylor (2).
3. *Chemung*,	David Murdock, D. D.,	Charles J. Chatfield.
4. *Ithaca*,	Allen Traver,	Joseph Esty.
5. *Pennsylvania*,	A. Henry Barnes.	
6. *Lyons*,	Robert E. Willson,	Jesse Smith.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	William W. Newell,	Philip Flint,
		Luther Baker.
2. *Cayuga*,	William S. Franklin,	Lake J. Tefft, M. D.,
	Henry N. Millerd,	Samuel Stringham.
3. *Cortland*,	William G. Hubbard,	Hon. Perrin H. McGraw.
4. *Tioga*,	Peter Lockwood (6),	Elias Hawley (2).

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Chas. Wadsworth (2),	Charles H. Metcalf.
2. *Chenango*,	Henry Callahan.	
3. *Delaware*,	Samuel J. White.	[5]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Edwin S. Wright,	George W. Tew,
	Charles Jerome,	Byron Cochran.
2. *Ontario*,	Anson H. Parmelee.	
3. *Rochester*,	James Fenner,	Albert Simonds.
	Frederick Starr, Jr.,	
4. *Genesee*,	D. C. Houghton, D. D.,	Hon. Aug. P. Hascall.
5. *Niagara*,	J. Jerome Ward.	
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Henry E. Niles.	

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	George Pierson,	George W. Seward.
2. *North River*,	Benjamin F. Wile.	
3. *Long Island*,	John Reid,	David Williamson, Jr.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Charles Hoover (2),	John C. Hines,
	Robert R. Booth,	Charles H. Rusher,
	James C. Egbert,	Francis Duncan.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Thomas S. Hastings,	John H. Bulen,
	Amasa S. Freeman,	Lewis E. Jackson.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Peter J. H. Myers,	Walter S. Griffith.
7. *Newark*,	Jona. F. Stearns, D. D.,	Hon. Wm. Pennington,
	Daniel W. Poor, D. D.,	Samuel O. Harrison.
8. *Rockaway*,	Joseph F. Tuttle (2),	John Hill.
9. *Montrose*,	Samuel Whaley,	Abner C. Hinman,
	Thos. R. Townsend,	James Leighton.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	James Morton,	Robert C. Hall.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	John Jenkins,	George Fleming,
	Walter S. Drysdale,	Thomas Potter.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Jacob Helfenstein,	Alexander Whilldin,
	Charles F. Diver,	Joseph Francis.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Charles J. Hutchins,	James Loudon (2).

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	George A. Lyon, D. D.,	James M. Moorhead (2).
2. *Meadville*,	Rich. Craighead (5),	Ninian Irwin.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Henry Kendall, D. D.,	Hon. Hen. W. Williams [6]

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	William Hogarth.	
2. *Monroe*,	George C. Curtis (5),	Alfred L. Millerd.
3. *Marshall*,	Bela Fancher.	
4. *Washtenaw*,	Lucius D. Chapin,	Thomas Wood.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Alfred Bryant.	
6. *Cold Water*,	James Knox.	
7. *Saginaw*,	Henry H. Northrop,	Ebenezer B. Dewey.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	William M. Ferry,	Henry Griffin.
9. *Lake Superior*.		

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Eben. B. Chamberlain.	
2. *Portage*,	Samuel Lee.	
3. *Huron*,	Robin. S. Lockwood,	Elijah Bemis.
4. *Trumbull*,	Benjamin Walker,	Andrew Jackson.
5. *Cleveland*,	Franklin Maginnis,	Truman P. Handy,
	James Eells,	Elisha Taylor.
6. *Elyria*,	Hubbard Lawrence.	
7. *Maumee*,	George A. Adams,	Sylvanus Hatch.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Charles Merwin.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Edwards A. Beach,	Matthew Newkirk (2).
3. *Franklin*,	Warren Jenkins,	Edgar G. Barnum.
4. *Scioto*,	E. Perkins Pratt, D. D.,	Joseph Riggs.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	B. P. Aydelotte, D. D.,	Thomas C. Butler (2).
2. *Dayton*,	Jerem. P. E. Kumler,	William A. Ewing (2).
3. *Hamilton*,	William H. Rogers,	Amos Cleavenger.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	William H. McCarer.	
2. *Madison*,	Wm. W. Atterbury,	Robert G. Yonge.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Philip S. Cleland,	Philander H. Roots.
4. *Green Castle*,	Thomas S. Milligan,	George S. Rich.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	John Hawks,	William T. Scott.
2. *St. Joseph*,	John Sailor.	
3. *Logansport*,	James A. Veale.	
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Sanford R. Bissell,	Hon. John L. Knight. [7]

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	John G. Rankin,	Clint. Armstrong, M. D.
2. *Schuyler*,	George I. King,	Frederick Collins.
3. *Wabash*,	Friend A. Deming.	
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton,	John N. McCord.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Levi P. Crawford,	George Guy (2).
2. *Knox*,	John W. Bailey.	
3. *Galena*,	James R. Smith.	
4. *Chicago*,	R. W. Patterson, D. D.,	William H. Brown,
	William H. Spencer,	Peter Stewart.
5. *Belvidere*,	Charles P. Bush,	Hon. Charles Williams.
6. *Bloomington*,	James R. Dunn,	Lumen W. Capen.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	S. Granby Spees,	Anthony Green.
2. *Fox River*,	Sidney H. Barteau (3).	
3. *Columbus*,	Hiram Gregg,	Chauncey Hall.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Thompson Bird (3),	William D. Moore.
2. *Iowa City*,	Peter S. Van Nest.	
3. *Keokuk*,	William H. Williams,	John H. Day.
4. *Dubuque*,	Jas. H. Trowbridge,	Aaron M. Loomis (3).
5. *Cedar Valley.*		

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	James Thompson.
2. *Minnesota*,	Edward D. Neill (2).
3. *Winona*,	Charles S. Le Duc.

XXI. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco*,	Edward S. Lacy (2).
2. *Sierra Nevada.*	
3. *San José.*	

XXII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis.*
2. *Northern Missouri.*
3. *Lexington.*
4. *Osage.* [8]

XXIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester.*
2. *District of Columbia.*
3. *Hanover.*
4. *Piedmont.*

XXIV. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony.*
2. *Providence.*
3. *Green River.*

XXV. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union.*
2. *Holston.*
3. *Kingston.*
4. *New River.*

XXVI. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *West Tennessee.*		
2. *Shiloh.*		
3. *Richland.*		

XXVII. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Clinton.*		
2. *Lexington, South.*		
3. *Newton.*		
4. *Texas.*		

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*		
2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.*		
3. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America,*	Rev. Wm. Wilson, D. D.	
4. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*		
5. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States,*	Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, D. D.	
6. *General Association of Massachusetts,*	Rev. Ariel E. P. Perkins.	
7. *General Association of Connecticut.*		
8. *General Association of New Hampshire.*		
9. *General Conference of Maine,*	Rev. Steph. Thurston, D. D.	
10. *General Convention of Vermont.*		
11. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*		
12. *Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.*		[9]

The Committee on Commissions reported the attendance of Rev. James Eells, from the Presbytery of Cleveland, Rev. William H. McCarer, from the Presbytery of Salem, and Rev. James R. Dunn, from the Presbytery of Bloomington, without Commissions. Their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., and Rev. Peter S. Van Nest. The Committee presently reported, that they had obtained satisfactory information of the regular appointment of these Commissioners, and recommend that their names be added to the Roll; and their report was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 19th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The following Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll, viz.:

Rev. Henry Callahan, Minister, of the Presbytery of Chenango.
" Eber M. Rollo, " " Albany.
" John R. Herrick, " " Champlain.
" William Hogarth, " " Detroit.
" Samuel J. White, " " Delaware.

Mr. Lake J. Tefft, M. D., Elder, of the Presbytery of Cayuga.
" William T. Scott, " " Crawfordsville.
" Joseph Riggs, " " Scioto.
Hon. Aug. P. Hascall, " " Genesee.

Rev. Ariel E. P. Perkins, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator; whereupon the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Chicago, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. Henry Darling, the Permanent Clerk, being absent on account of ill-health, Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, was chosen Permanent Clerk, *pro tem.* Rev. Charles P. Bush, of the Presbytery of Belvidere, and Rev. Henry E. Niles, of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 8½ o'clock A. M. to 12½ M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M.; that the evening sessions, when held, commence at 8 o'clock; and that the first hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk. [10]

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the rules of this Assembly.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

It was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the annual reports of the Permanent Committees, except such as by standing rule are assigned to a particular time.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Hon. Augustus P. Hascall and Hon. Henry W. Williams.

The Third Presbyterian church of Pittsburgh, Pa., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next Assembly. And Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. Samuel M. Sparks, Rev. James F. Read, D. D., and the elders of the Third Presbyterian church, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements.*

A communication was received from the Wilmington Institute, tendering to the members of the Assembly, while in the city, the privilege of their rooms and the use of their library. The invitation was accepted, with thanks.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Rev. Edw. S. Lacy, Minister, of the Presbytery of San Francisco.
" Joseph F. Tuttle, " " Rockaway.
" Charles Wadsworth, " " Otsego.
" Edward D. Neill, " " Minnesota.

Mr. Nathaniel C. Taylor, Elder, of the Presbytery of Bath.
" Elias Hawley, " " Tioga.
" James M. Moorhead, " " Erie.
Hon. John C. Cole, " " Albany.
Mr. James Loudon, " " Harrisburgh.
Hon. M. Lindley Lee, M. D., " " Oswego.
Mr. George Grey, " " Ottawa.
" Matthew Newkirk, " " Pataskala.
" Gilbert M. Gifford, " " Utica. [11]

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., David Murdock, D. D., Calvin Yale, James Thompson. *Elders*—Hon. William Pennington, Hon. Henry W. Williams, Hon. Perrin H. McGraw.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—George A. Lyon, D. D., Benjamin P. Aydelotte, D. D., John W. Bailey, George Pierson. *Elders*—Elisha Taylor, Anthony Green, John C. Hines.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Daniel C. Houghton, D. D., Joseph F. Tuttle, William H. Spencer. *Elders*—Clinton Armstrong, M. D., Ebenezer B. Dewey, Joseph Riggs.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers*—Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., S. Granby Spees, William H. Williams. *Elders*—Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, Walter S. Griffith, Truman P. Handy.

5. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—John Jenkins, Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Frederick E. Cannon, D. D., George I. King. *Elders*—George W. Seward, Charles McLean, John N. McCord.

6. *Education. Ministers*—Henry Kendall, D. D., Robert E. Willson, Eber M. Rollo, Lucius D. Chapin. *Elders*—Frederick Collins, William H. Brown, Alexander Whilldin.

7. *Publication. Ministers*—Augustus T. Norton, William Hogarth, William E. Knox, William H. McCarer. *Elders*—Hon. Charles Williams, George Fleming, Lewis E. Jackson.

8. *Narrative. Ministers*—James Eells, William W. Newell, Thomas S. Hastings, James H. Trowbridge. *Elders*—William P. Bliss, Charles J. Chatfield, Andrew Jackson. [12]

9. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Jacob Helfenstein, Benjamin F. Wile, R. Richard Kirk, Ebenezer B. Chamberlain. *Elders*—Hon. John L. Knight, John H. Bulen, Robert C. Hall.

10. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Alfred Bryant, Warren Jenkins, Frederick Starr, Jr., A. Henry Barnes. *Elders*—Francis Duncan, William T. Scott, Elijah Bemis.

11. *Mileage. Elders*—Thomas Potter, Charles H. Rusher, Philander H. Roots.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany. Ministers*—W. Wallace Atterbury, James C. Egbert. *Elder*—Thomas Wood.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—Henry H. Northrop, John Bradshaw. *Elder*—George S. Rich.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—Peter S. Van Nest, William G. Hubbard. *Elder*—Roswell T. Lee.

4. *Onondaga. Ministers*—James R. Smith, Peter Gordon. *Elder*—Joseph Esty.

5. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—Henry N. Millerd, John Hawks. *Elder*—David Williamson, Jr.

6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—Samuel J. White, Charles F. Diver. *Elder*—Alfred L. Millerd.
7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—J. Jerome Ward, Levi P. Crawford. *Elder*—Joseph Francis.
8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Peter J. H. Myers, Charles S. Le Duc. *Elder*—Ninian Irwin.
9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—James Morton, Samuel Lee. *Elder*—Henry Griffin.
10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—William S. Franklin, Peter Gordon. *Elder*—Peter Stewart.
11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Stephen Vorhis, William H. Rogers. *Elder*—Philip Flint.
12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Amasa S. Freeman, Jeremiah P. E. Kumler. *Elder*—Robert G. Yonge.
13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Philip S. Cleland, Allen Traver. *Elder*—Samuel Stringham.
14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Franklin Maginnis, James Fenner. *Elder*—Samuel G. Harrison.
15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Henry Callahan, Edwards A. Beach. *Elder*—William D. Moore.
16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Thomas S. Milligan, Edwin S. Wright. *Elder*—Amos Cleavenger. [13]
17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Charles Jerome, James Knox. *Elder*—Albert Simonds.
18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Robinson S. Lockwood, William M. Ferry. *Elder*—Edgar G. Barnum.
19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—John R. Herrick, Anson H. Parmelee. *Elder*—George S. Rich.
20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—Bela Fancher, Hiram Gregg. *Elder*—Lawrence Winne.
21. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Edward Stratton, John Reid. *Elder*—Byron Cochran.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was presented, and, having been accepted, was referred to the Standing Committee on that subject.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee of Publication was presented, and, having been accepted, was referred to the Standing Committee on that subject; and the Treasurer's report, accompanying it, was referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Hon. William Pennington and Mr. William H. Brown.

It was made the first order of the day, for Monday next, to receive the reports of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, appointed by the last Assembly, and to receive the communications of the Delegates from these bodies.

A communication was received from Mr. John R. Latimer and lady, of this city, inviting the members of the Assembly to a social entertainment, at their residence, to-morrow, at 3 o'clock P. M. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Rev. Edwd. Lord, Minister, of the Presbytery of Oswego,
Rev. Chas. Hoover, " " " New York, 3d.
Thomas C. Butler, Elder, " " Cincinnati.
William A. Ewing, " " " Dayton. [14]

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education was presented, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on that subject.

Reports were also received from the Theological Seminaries within the bounds of the Assembly.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow, to hear the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

The Committee on Devotional Services reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

The report of the Committee on a Summary of doctrine and form of covenant was made the second order of the day for to-morrow.

A Committee, consisting of Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, and Rev. Robert R. Booth, were appointed to nominate a preacher on Home Missions, for the next Assembly.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account, reported that they had found the account correct, and their report was adopted.

The Moderator informed the Assembly, that an Overture from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian church, had been put into his hands, which was read and referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. James Eells, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, and Messrs. Walter S. Griffith and Robert C. Hall.

A communication was received from the Synod of Mississippi, announcing their withdrawal from the Assembly, which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The adjustment of the Roll of Synods and Presbyteries was referred to the same Committee.

The Standing Committee on Publication were instructed to inquire into the propriety of publishing the reports of the Permanent Committees for general circulation, and report to this Assembly.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Rev. Sidney H. Barteau, Minister, of the Presbytery of Fox River.
Rev. Thompson Bird, " " " Des Moines.
Aaron M. Loomis, Elder, " " Dubuque. [15]

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Delegate of the General Conference of Maine addressed the Assembly.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions was made the order of the day immediately after the report of the Permanent Committee on Church Erection, this morning.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly, to prepare a Summary of doctrine and form of covenant, for admission of members to the Church, presented their report, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Erection, together with two special reports on matters referred to them by the last Assembly, were presented, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions was presented, accepted, and referred to the same Committee.

A Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was appointed, consisting of Rev. Charles Hoover, Rev. Robert E. Willson, and Mr. Truman P. Handy.

A communication from the Chancellor of the "Ingham University" was received, and was referred to the Committee on Education.

The Assembly were informed by the Stated Clerk, that a legacy had been devised by the late Mr. Anson G. Phelps, in favor of the Assembly; whereupon the Treasurer and the Stated Clerk were appointed to take the matter in charge.

Adjourned until Monday next, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Robert R. Booth, the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; Rev. Charles P. Bush, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; Rev. Joseph Wilson, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; Rev. George Duffield, D. D., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America; and Rev. John Spaulding, the Delegate to the [16] Union of the Evangelical Churches of France: all which were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes of the Assembly.

The Delegate of the General Association of Massachusetts was heard. Communications were also read from the Delegates of the General Association of New Hampshire, and the Congregational Convention of Vermont. Also a communication from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.

A communication from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, Canada, was received, and referred, with accompanying documents, to a *Committee* consisting of Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. Frederick E. Cannon, D. D., and Alfred L. Millerd.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported in part, and their report was accepted.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension was presented, accepted, and referred, with the Treasurer's report, to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

It was made the order of the day, for 4 o'clock this P. M., to hear the Rev. Justin Perkins, D. D., of Oroomiah, Persia.

Rev. William Wilson, D. D., presented his testimonials as the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, and his name was entered on the Roll.

The Committee, appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer of the Publication Committee, reported that they had examined the accounts, and found them correct; and the report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Chanting of Psalms presented a report, which was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The first Monday of January, 1860, was recommended as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; and the last Thursday of February, as a concert of prayer for Colleges and other institutions of learning.

The daily calling of the Roll, during the remaining sessions of the Assembly, was dispensed with.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures,

No. 1. A memorial from the Presbytery of Dakota; which was referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

No. 2. A memorial of the Rev. Benjamin Mills, of the Synod of Cincinnati; which was referred to the same Committee.

No. 3. From the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, on Lay Agency; which was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. [17] Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. David Murdock, D. D., Rev. Benjamin P. Aydelotte, D. D., Mr. George W. Tew, and Mr. Frederick Collins.

The remainder of the report was postponed until to-morrow morning, to give place to the order of the day. The Rev. Justin Perkins, D. D., then addressed the Assembly on missions in Persia. Rev. Edward S. Lacy and Rev. Thomas S. Hastings were appointed to bring in a minute, expressive of the sense of the Assembly on the subject.

The Committee, appointed to nominate a preacher on Home Missions, reported the names of Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal, and Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate; and their report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Richard Craighead, of the Presbytery of Meadville, was reported, and his name entered on the Roll.

Rev. Ariel E. P. Perkins, the Delegate of the General Association of Massachusetts, took leave of the Assembly, and the Moderator responded in a brief address.

Rev. William Wilson, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported paper

No. 1. From the Presbytery of Kansas, asking to be recognized and attached to the Synod of Indiana. The Committee recommend that their request be granted, substituting the Synod of Iowa for that of Indiana; which was adopted.

No. 2. From the Presbytery of Cincinnati, touching the condition of certain churches in Kentucky, seeking connection with us. The Committee recommend that, for the present, such churches be allowed to connect themselves with the Presbyteries contiguous, most to their convenience; and the report was adopted.

No. 3. Asking what shall be done with certain church members, against whose moral character no charges can be made, but who wish to be released from their church obligations. The Committee recommend, that such cases be referred to the sound discretion of the sessions, to which such persons may be answerable; reminding the sessions, that it is a fundamental law of the Church, that no persons can be suspended from the communion of the Church, or have any other penalty inflicted, without regular citation and trial, according to the forms prescribed in our Book of Discipline. [18]

It was moved, and, after considerable discussion, under a call for the previous question, it was resolved, to recommit this part of the report, with instructions to report, that no new order be taken in the case.

No. 4. Inquiring as to the right of minors to vote in the election of elders and deacons. The Committee recommend to return for answer,

That it is not in accordance with the principles and usages of the Presbyterian Church to distinguish between members of the church as to their ages in voting for officers of the church.

The recommendation was adopted.

The Judicial Committee reported paper No. 1, an Overture from the Presbytery of Milwaukee, touching the case of a minister supposed to have been irregularly received, and asking for a new rule in the case. The Committee recommend, as the action of the Assembly in this case, that no new rule appears necessary. Pending a motion to adopt the recommendation, the hour of adjournment arrived.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business was resumed. The recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

The Committee also reported paper No. 2. An Overture from the Presbytery of Keokuk, asking if they have jurisdiction over the case of James H. Shields, deposed by the Presbytery of Des Moines.

The Committee recommend to the Assembly, that the question submitted by the Presbytery of Keokuk be answered in the negative; and the recommendation was adopted.

No. 3. A memorial from Rev. Benjamin Mills and others, of the Synod of Kentucky, with respect to himself and others, formerly members of the Synod of Kentucky, expressive of their attachment to us, and their desire to return to our connection, if, with their views on the subject of Slavery, the way may be open to receive them. The Committee recommend, that these ministers and churches, and others similarly situated, be referred to the Presbytery of Cincinnati, or any other border Presbytery; and that such Presbyteries be authorized, so to extend their jurisdiction, as to receive any such ministers and churches, situated near their borders, whose principles and practice are found to harmonize with the position of the Church, as expressed and published to the world by former Assemblies. [19]

The following minute was recommended by the Committee appointed for the purpose yesterday:

Having heard, with the deepest interest, the address of the Rev. Justin Perkins, D. D., of the Nestorian Mission, upon the great work for the kingdom of Christ in that land; and feeling that the subject commands our fullest sympathy and most earnest co-operation; therefore,

Resolved, That our thanks be given to this brother for his words of godly counsel and encouragement; and that we pledge him our prayers and continued exertions, for the great cause in which he and his co-laborers are engaged.

The minute was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was accepted, placed on the docket, and made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Rev. George C. Curtis, of the Presbytery of Monroe, appeared as a Commissioner, and his name was entered on the Roll.

A special report on missions to Central and South America was presented by the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on that subject.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented a report on the subject of Church Erection. The report was accepted; and, pending the question on its adoption, the Assembly

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Peter Lockwood, of the Presbytery of Tioga, appeared as a Commissioner, and his name was entered on the Roll.

The thanks of the Assembly were returned to Mr. George H. Stuart of Philadelphia, for 250 copies of a pamphlet entitled "Pentecost."

The unfinished business of the last session, being the adoption of the report of the Church Extension Committee on the subject of Church Erection, was resumed. Pending the discussion, the order of the day, the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, was taken up.

The Committee had leave to report, still further, on the subject of Missions to Mexico and Central and South America, which was accepted as a part of the report under consideration. [20]

Rev. Selah B. Treat, one of the corresponding secretaries of the A. B. C. F. Missions, on invitation, addressed the Assembly.

The discussion was resumed, and continued until near the hour of adjournment, when Rev. William Wilson, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, took leave of the Assembly; and the Moderator responded in a brief address.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, immediately after the devotional exercises, to hear the report of the Standing Committee on Publication.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report, which was adopted, recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper to-morrow evening, in the Hanover street church, agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside and read the opening hymn.
2. Prayer and reading the Scriptures, by the Rev. S. Granby Spees.
3. Address and administration of the Bread, by the Rev. James Knox.
4. Prayer and administration of the Cup, by the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D.
5. Address, by the Rev. Richard Craighead.
6. Hymn and Benediction, by the Moderator.

The following elders to distribute the elements: Hon. William Pennington, Samuel Stringham, Philip Flint, Charles H. Rusher, Alexander Whilldin, and Clinton Armstrong.

The unfinished business of the morning was then resumed.

Pending the discussion, the hour for adjournment arrived.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. George S. Frost, Elder, of the Presbytery of Detroit, appeared, and his name was entered on the Roll.

The Standing Committee on Publication, agreeably to the order [21] of the day, presented their report, which was accepted, and placed on the docket.

The unfinished business of the last session was then taken up, being the consideration of the report on Foreign Missions; which, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee having taken into consideration the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, and the Overtures, synodical and presbyterial, bearing upon this part of our ecclesiastical work, which have been referred to your Committee, respectfully submit the following report, and recommend its adoption by the General Assembly:

1. The Assembly owe it to the Permanent Committee, to record their thanks for the lucid and deeply interesting narrative which they have furnished, in the report now submitted, of the past and present connection of our Church with the great Christian work of Foreign Missions.

2. It is highly desirable, that said report be printed, and widely circulated among the members of our churches; and also that our pastors present to their congregations, at the monthly concert of prayer for Foreign Missions, the facts contained therein, as eminently calculated to induce thankfulness for that part, which, in the providence of God, we have been permitted to take in this work in the past, as well as to incite us to more earnest zeal and labor as to the share which we may be hereafter called to assume in carrying the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

3. It is desirable, also, that said report be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes of the General Assembly, so that there may exist, in an official form, a permanent record of the interesting facts which have been thus brought under the notice of this body:

The following Overtures or memorials on the subject of Foreign Missions have been forwarded to this Assembly:

First. From the Synod of Minnesota, praying the Assembly to decide such measures as, in their wisdom, may seem fit, for the purpose of securing a closer ecclesiastical relation of our foreign missionaries with the General Assembly, and of securing also direct reports, from these brethren, to our Assemblies, Synods, and Presbyteries; as tending, in the estimation of the memorialists, to a larger development of the missionary spirit in our beloved Church.

Second. From the Presbytery of Newark, expressing their unanimous conviction of the expediency of instructing the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, to concert measures with the Prudential Committee of the A. B. C. F. M., for the formation of Presbyteries on its foreign field, whenever such a step may be deemed practicable.

Third. From the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, stating, that one of their members, a missionary in the foreign field, having been recommended by his Presbytery to propose, to his Presbyterian brethren in the same mission, that they should form them[22]selves into a Presbytery, declined, with his brethren, to do so, upon the understanding, that it was the business of the Prudential Committee of the Board to arrange the ecclesiastical organizations of missionaries and mission churches in foreign lands; thereupon praying the Assembly to consider this subject; and expressing the conviction, that our churches are deficient in missionary spirit; that our young men are not coming forward to offer themselves as missionaries; and that, though actuated by no sectarian feeling, they are convinced, that a proper missionary spirit can not be created, or kept alive, without our having, in some way, a closer relation to our missionaries, and without, in some way, bringing home to our churches the feeling that this is our own work.

This Overture further reminds the General Assembly, that, after contributing millions of money, we have not a solitary mission church, or but one, in the entire foreign field; and respectfully suggests, without venturing to dictate, that a portion of the foreign field be set apart, to be occupied exclusively by missionaries of our Church, that every difficulty in the way of a homogeneous ecclesiastical organization may be removed.

Fourth. From the Presbytery of Greencastle, recommending to the General Assembly, to secure to our churches the direct control of our ministers laboring in foreign lands, as to their ecclesiastical relations.

The Assembly, having considered these Overtures and memorials, further resolve:

1. That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States have reason to rejoice in God, that they have been permitted to share, with their brethren of other denominations, the high privilege of bringing into efficiency the noblest of all the missionary institutions of our country; and that, in both funds and men, our churches have supplied so considerable a proportion of the expenditure, which has been incurred in founding and sustaining, in the Turkish Empire, in Hindostan, in Ceylon, and elsewhere, missions and labors which have reflected so bright an honor upon American Christianity.

2. That we rejoice in the successes, which the Great Head of the Church continues to vouchsafe to the operations of the American Board, in the varied and difficult fields, which, in the providence of God, it is called to occupy; and fervently desire, that its future career may be "as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

3. That we deeply sympathize with the Board in its present pecuniary

embarrassments, and commend the cause of missions, as conducted by it, to enlarged self-denying liberalities on the part of our churches.

4. That the time has now come, when, in order to a more thorough development of that missionary spirit, which should pervade every portion of the Christian Church, the prayers of the memorialists, now enumerated, demand not only consideration, but [23] action. These prayers ask not, in any instance, for a cessation from the co-operative principle in conducting this work, but simply for a closer connection with it, by means of the formation of Presbyteries in foreign lands, wherever numbers and circumstances will allow of such a course. In the judgment of this body, this request consists, not only with the highest reason, but with the broadest charity; for the Assembly cannot forget the fact, that, after long years of connection with the Foreign Missionary department of evangelistic labor, we have at this time but one Presbyterian church of our connection in the foreign field.

The Presbyterian Church have had too great a share in laying the foundations of the American Board, and in building up its noble superstructure, to be willing, except for the most imperative reasons, to sever the tie which binds them, the one to the other. If they can do so with fidelity to their brethren abroad, and to their churches at home, the Assembly will joyfully perpetuate their co-operation with brethren, with whom it has been so long, so honorably, and so successfully associated, in advancing throughout the world the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. They will sacrifice everything for this, but the salvation of souls, and the edification and general prosperity of that portion of the Church over which the Holy Ghost hath made them overseers. But the General Assembly record it, as their deliberate judgment, that it is due to the interests of our Church, and to its vital connection with our foreign work,

1. That it should be distinctly understood, here and abroad, that the Board, its Prudential Committee, and officers, interpose no obstacles in the way of the formation of foreign Presbyteries.

2. That the appointments of missionaries should be so disposed, wherever it is wise and practicable, as to facilitate the formation of such Presbyteries.

3. That there should be a free correspondence of our missionaries with the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly.

4. That less than this the Assembly cannot declare; because less than this would not lead our churches to identify themselves with the operations and successes of the Board, and to manifest that interest and zeal in its welfare and prosperity, which are requisite for the perpetuity among ourselves of the true missionary spirit.

5. That, in recording this their judgment, the General Assembly feel encouraged by the fact, that the Prudential Committee of the American Board have frequently professed their desire and purpose, not to interfere with the ecclesiastical bias of the missionaries, or with the attempt of any one or more of them to form Presbyteries and Presbyterian churches on their fields of labor. Accepting these professions in good faith, the Assembly desire such an understanding with the Board as shall lead to the realization of all which is sought for, by the before-mentioned Synod and Presbyteries, and demanded by the convictions of our whole Church.

6. That this General Assembly are further encouraged, by in[24]formation which has reached them from reliable sources, that our missionary brethren, in some portions of the work, are directing their thoughts and aims towards the perpetuation, in foreign countries, of our excellent Presbyterian polity.

7. That it is regarded, by the General Assembly, as both desirable and important, that our brethren, who are laboring in the foreign field, correspond

with the Permanent Committee on the subject of their labors; and that said Committee be requested to prepare, from year to year, such a report of our foreign work as shall be calculated to quicken the zeal of our people, in prayers and labors for the conversion of the whole world to Christ; such report to be submitted to the General Assembly.

8. The General Assembly hereby appoint Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. John Jenkins, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, and Hon. William Strong, a Special *Committee* to attend the next meeting of the A. B. C. F. M., to be held in Philadelphia, on the first Tuesday of October next, for the purpose of conveying, to the Board, the Assembly's views as herein expressed, and of conferring with it, or with any Committee which it may appoint, as to the best mode by which these results may be most wisely and prudently secured; as well as to confer, in regard to the localities where our missionaries can be most conveniently and speedily concentrated.

9. That this report be printed in circular form, and transmitted to each of our foreign missionaries, with the recommendation to such missionaries, that they proceed to form themselves into Presbyteries, whenever and wherever, in their judgment, it is practicable and expedient.

10. That the candidates for the missionary work, going out from our body, be recommended to give their attention to those fields, where Presbyteries are or may be formed.

11. The General Assembly hereby empower the Synod of New York and New Jersey to form and receive foreign Presbyteries, whenever constitutionally requested so to do by our foreign missionaries.

The Committee have also had under consideration the report of the General Assembly's Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, respecting a certain memorial referred to them by the last General Assembly, signed by Rev. George Duffield, D. D., and others, on the desirableness of our instituting missionary operations in Mexico, and in Central and Southern America; also a second memorial, forwarded to this General Assembly by the same parties, on the same subject; in respect to which,

The Committee respectfully submit the following report, and recommend its adoption by the General Assembly:

1. That the Assembly regard the proposal of the memorialists as entitled to both consideration and respect.

2. That in the present attitude of our work abroad, it is inexpedient for this General Assembly to initiate any new and independent foreign missionary undertaking: [25]

Because it is due to our missionary brethren in fields already occupied, that all our available men be commissioned to those parts of the world, in which it is deemed important to facilitate the formation of Presbyteries, and thus to increase the efficiency of particular missions.

3. That it is yet due to the memorialists, and to the important subject which they thus bring to the notice of the Assembly, that it be held over for advisement for another year; and, for this purpose, the report of the Permanent Committee is referred back, together with the present memorial, to said Committee; who are hereby requested to reconsider their report, to make further inquiries respecting the field indicated, and to report to the next General Assembly.

In relation to the vacancies that occur in the Permanent Committee, it is respectfully recommended,

That the Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., be appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the withdrawal of the Rev. J. Duché Mitchell, D. D., and

That Messrs. Wm. E. Dodge, Walter S. Griffith, Hon. John L. Mason, Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Mr. Joseph N. Tuttle, be appointed to serve for the next three years, in place of those whose term of service has now expired.

The unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Church Extension Committee, on the subject of Church Erection, was then taken up, and was under discussion when the hour of adjournment arrived.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The presentation of the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records was made the first order for to-morrow.

The unfinished business was then resumed.

The report of the Committee was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension beg leave to report, on such of the subjects referred to them, as relate to the Church Erection Fund.

The annual report of the Trustees of this Fund contains additional evidence of the wisdom and usefulness of the scheme intrusted to their management and care, and of the faithfulness with which their trust has been discharged. Notwithstanding the recent financial revulsions, which have scattered the property of so many incorporations and private individuals, no portion of the money placed in their hands has been lost; and, by the accumula[26]tion of interest from skilful investments, where it is constantly at command, it has increased $7684.99.

During the three years that the Fund has been in use, grants have been made to 119 congregations, to the amount of $42,218, which have secured to the Church wholly unencumbered property of the value of more than $300,000.

The term of office, as Trustees, of Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Stephen H. Thayer, Esq., expires at this time; and the Committee recommend their re-appointment for the coming three years.

The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund have presented two special reports, on subjects referred to them by the last General Assembly, the adoption of both of which is recommended by this Committee.

The first of these special reports relates to three papers: one from the Presbytery of Harmony, discussing the action of the General Assembly of 1857, on Slavery, and assigning the reasons for the withdrawal of that body from our ecclesiastical connection; a second paper from the same Presbytery, asking for a payment, to it and to the Synod of Kentucky, of what it calls its "proportional share" of the Church Erection Fund; and a third paper, signed by A. H. H. Boyd, in behalf of a body styled "The United Synod of the Presbyterian Church," and represented as consisting of the Synods of Virginia, Tennessee, West Tennessee, and Mississippi, which it is stated have withdrawn from our connection; asking for the payment, to that body, of the sums allotted to those Synods in the first apportionment of the Church Erection Fund.

The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund justly remark, in their special report, that the first paper calls for no action on our part; and the charter, by which they are incorporated, explicitly defines "feeble congregations in connection with" the "General Assembly" as the only bodies to which their grants can be made, and these Trustees as the only persons by whom the Fund, or any portion of it, can be held.

The second special report of the Trustees relates to a proposal, that the Trustees should appoint agents for the collection of money to assist churches, in certain cases, beyond the amount allowed by the existing regulations of the Fund; and also to a proposal, that these regulations should be so altered, as to permit appropriations to communities, in special circumstances, where no church had been organized. The terms of the charter forbid a compliance with the last; and the repeated and widely-published statements, while the Church Erection Fund was in the process of collection, that the scheme was to check, if not arrest, appeals for help in building houses of worship, dissuade us from acceding to the first.

Various Overtures have been referred to this Committee. The Presbytery of Iowa City prays, that the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund may appoint agents for the collection of funds in the cases described in the second special report; and the Presby[27]teries of Iowa City, Keokuk, and Knox pray, that a day may be appointed for a general collection, to assist churches beyond the amount allowed by the existing regulations of the Church Erection Fund. The Committee recommend the answer given to these petitions, in form or substance, in the second special report of the Trustees.

The Presbytery of Iowa City renews the prayer, that grants may be allowed, in some extraordinary cases, where no church has been yet constituted; to which the Committee recommend the reply in the second special report of the Trustees.

The Presbyteries of Winona, Iowa City, and Knox pray, that the portions of the Church Erection Fund, allotted to the different Synods, may be paid over to the Synodical Committees for distribution at their discretion; and the Presbytery of Kansas prays, that $3000 may be paid over to it, to be distributed at its discretion; or, if this be declined, that the money be remitted to the Synod, to which that Presbytery may be attached, for distribution at the discretion of the Synodical Committee.

The charter constitutes the Trustees the sole custodians and managers of the Church Erection Fund; and the Committee recommend this as the answer to these petitions of the Presbyteries.

The Synod of Iowa pray, that the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund may be clothed with discretionary power to grant, to congregations in cities and large towns, loans as large, if necessary, as $1000; and donations as large, if necessary, as $400.

While it has seemed, to a majority of the Committee, desirable in itself considered, that appropriations of the amount now named should be allowable in certain extraordinary cases, there are too many considerations presenting the proposed alteration as of questionable expediency, and too many brethren whose experience and observation of the workings of the scheme entitle their judgment to respect, clear and decided in their convictions against it, to justify our venturing upon it at the present time; and the Committee cordially agree in recommending that the existing rates of grants be adhered to, until a further trial shall make it more obvious, whether they should be retained or changed, and secure greater unanimity in regard to them.

The Trustees of the Synod of Iowa pray, that $100, with interest from 1855, transmitted, as they state, by mistake, to the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly, should be returned to them. It appears, however, from the records of the Synod of Iowa, that that body sanctioned the act of the Chairman of its Church Erection Committee in transmitting the said $100 to the Trustees of the Assembly's Fund, in payment of the assessment made upon its churches for the purposes of this Fund; and the Committee, therefore, recommend that the Trustees of the Synod of Iowa be referred to the Synod of Iowa, and to the churches under its care, for the sum they ask of the Assembly.

The Committee recommend the following apportionment of the [28] Church Erection Fund for the current year, among the respective Synods:

Albany,	2	per cent.	Ohio,	3	per cent.
Alta California,	3	"	Onondaga,	2.5	"
Cincinnati,	2.5	"	Pennsylvania,	3	"
Genesee,	3	"	Peoria,	8	"
Geneva,	1	"	Susquehanna,	3	"
Illinois,	10	"	Tennessee,	1.5	"
Indiana,	4	"	Utica,	2	"
Iowa,	12	"	Virginia,	2	"
Kentucky,	1	"	Wabash,	3	"
Michigan,	8	"	West. Reserve,	4	"
Minnesota,	7.5	"	W. Pennsylvania,	3	"
Mississippi,	1	"	West Tennessee,	2	"
Missouri,	2	"	Wisconsin,	8	"
N. Y. and N. J.,	3	"			

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented their report on Church Extension, which was accepted, and under discussion, when the hour of adjournment arrived.

Adjourned to meet in the Hanover street church, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met in the Hanover street church, pursuant to adjournment, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and the services were conducted according to previous appointment.

Adjourned to meet in the Central church, to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met in the Central church, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional services.

The Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which was accepted and placed on the docket.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Onondaga, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Wabash, Peoria, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois, were presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written, and the reports were severally adopted. [29]

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Michigan, Susquehanna, Indiana, and Alta California, reported that the records are not in the house, and the Committees were discharged.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Geneva presented their report, which was accepted, and referred, together with a protest from the Presbytery of Ithaca against certain proceedings of the Synod, to the Committee on Church Polity.

The Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, D. D., the Delegate of the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, appeared, and his name was entered on the Roll, after which he addressed the Assembly.

The unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Church Extension Committee, was postponed to hear the report of the Committee on Mileage. Their report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Mileage Committee report the following statements and recommendations:

1. That forty-eight Presbyteries have complied with the regulations of the Assembly in respect to the Commissioners' Fund, and have paid their full proportion towards the expenses of the Assembly, at the rate of five cents for each of their communicants, viz.:

Catskill, St. Lawrence, Ithaca, Cayuga, Hudson, Long Island, New York Third, New York Fourth, Philadelphia Third, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Marshall, Washtenaw, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Portage, Grand River, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Iowa City, Keokuk, Dubuque, Dakota, Winona, and Minnesota: amounting to the sum of $2348.31.

2. That fourteen Presbyteries have contributed to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of sixty cents or more for each of their ministers, according to the regulation of the last Assembly, viz.:

Troy, Utica, Pennsylvania, Ontario, Niagara, Newark, Brooklyn, Wilmington, Philadelphia Fourth, Monroe, Cold Water, St. Joseph, Logansport, and Alton: amounting to $586.34. Making the whole sum, received by the Committee, $2934.65.

3. That $651.65 be paid to the Stated Clerk to defray the contingent expenses, in part, of this Assembly.

4. That, in order to meet the remaining part of the contingent expenses, it be enjoined on the remaining thirty-seven Presbyteries to pay to the Stated Clerk at least sixty cents for each of their ministers.

5. That, after deducting the sum to be appropriated to the Contingent Fund, the balance in the hands of the Committee, $2283, is sufficient to pay seventy-five per cent. of the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners of those Presbyteries which have paid in full, according to the bills as audited by the Committee. [30]

6. That the rate for the next Assembly be five cents for each communicant; and that it be earnestly enjoined on all the Presbyteries to contribute their full share, as thus determined, of the amount needed to defray the expenses of the next Assembly.

Resolved, That the Mileage Committee be instructed to receive and distribute at their discretion any moneys which may be placed in their hands for the relief of cases which may seem to require it.

An invitation was received from a committee of the citizens of Wilmington, to participate in a steamboat excursion on the Delaware River and Bay, next Monday afternoon. The invitation was accepted, with the thanks of the Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that the following persons have been excused from attending the further sessions of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. Eben. B. Chamberlain,	of the Presbytery of	Grand River.
Hon. William Pennington,	"	Newark.
Rev. Charles Jerome,	"	Buffalo.

Elder Elias Hawley, of the Presbytery of Tioga.
" Andrew Jackson, " Trumbull.
Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, " Genesee.
Elder William T. Scott, " Crawfordsville.
" John N. McCord, " Alton.
" George S. Rich, " Green Castle.
" William H. Brown, " Chicago.
Rev. Samuel J. White, " Delaware.
Elder James Loudon, " Harrisburgh.
" Edgar G. Barnum, " Franklin.
Hon. M. Lindley Lee, M. D., " Oswego.
Elder Nathaniel C. Taylor, " Bath.
Rev. Stephen Vorhis, " Bath.
Hon. John L. Knight, " Fort Wayne.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 27th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Stephen H. Thayer, Esq., were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years.

The following were elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House: John C. Farr, Charles S. Wurts, Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace. [31]

The unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Extension, was taken up, and discussed until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business having been postponed, Messrs. James B. Pinneo, Fisher Howe, and Samuel H. Perkins were elected auditors of the Church Erection Fund.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was accepted, and its consideration was made the order of the day for Monday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The unfinished business was then resumed; and the report was recommitted, with instructions to report as early as practicable next Monday.

Adjourned, to meet in the lecture-room, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 28th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met in the lecture-room, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. John Jenkins, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal, and the Rev. John McLeod, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate, were appointed Delegates to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and to the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, to propose a correspondence with these bodies, and, if agreeable to them, to arrange the terms on which it shall be conducted.

The report of the Standing Committee on Publication was taken up, and discussed until the hour for adjournment. The Committee on Leave of Absence, the adjournment having been postponed, reported that the following members have been excused from attendance on the further sessions of the Assembly:

Elder	George Fleming,	of the Presbytery of	Philadelphia, Third.
"	Amos Cleavenger,	"	Hamilton.
Rev.	Benjamin F. Wile,	"	North River.
"	William W. Newell,	"	Onondaga. [32]
"	John R. Herrick,	"	Champlain.
Elder	David Williamson, Jr.,	"	Long Island.
"	Anthony Green,	"	Milwaukee.
"	Albert Simonds,	"	Rochester.
Rev.	Henry Callahan,	"	Chenango.
"	Joseph F. Tuttle,	"	Rockaway.
"	Charles Hoover,	"	New York, Third.
"	John Bradshaw,	"	Champlain.
Hon.	Charles Williams,	"	Belvidere.
Elder	John Hill,	"	Rockaway.
"	Henry Griffin,	"	Grand River Val.
"	Frederick Collins,	"	Schuyler.
"	Peter Stewart,	"	Chicago.
"	Lumen W. Capen,	"	Bloomington.

Adjourned to meet in the church, on Monday next, at 8½ o'clock A. M. Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 30*th*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met in the church, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Overture from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian church, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Special Committee, to whom was referred a memorial from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian church, proposing a correspondence with us "on the subject of an organic union" between us and them, having read and considered the document and heard the statements of the Synod's Delegate, Rev. A. B. Bradford, respectfully recommend, as the action of this body, the following, viz.:

We cordially reciprocate the expressions of fraternal kindness in the memorial of our brethren. Our position on the subject of Slavery has been already, as we think, explicitly and fully declared. The past action of the Assembly is before the world in our published Minutes, and to that we must refer for a full understanding of our views, and the ground on which as a body we stand. We are happy to receive into our connection any churches of the same faith and order with ourselves, who cordially approve our declared views, and can be harmonious and happy with us as co-laborers in the great work in which we are engaged.

The Committee also recommend that a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., and the Rev. James Eells, be appointed, to hold such further correspond[33]ence and conference with the brethren of the Synod, as shall be deemed desirable, and report to the next General Assembly.

The unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Committee on Publication, was taken up, and was under discussion until the time for the order of the day.

The Assembly proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee on Education, which was under discussion when the hour for adjournment arrived.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 30th, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business was resumed, and each speaker, during the remainder of the sessions, was limited to five minutes.

The report of the Committee, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, and various other papers bearing on the same subject, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they are happy to note the evidences of increased interest in the subject of Education in our Church.

The Theological Seminaries have an unusually large number of students; they are all securing enlarged endowments for the accommodation and more thorough instruction of a still greater number; and there is a prospect that a new Seminary at the West will be opened, for the instruction of candidates for the ministry, during the ensuing year.

The Colleges, which are accustomed to furnish our Seminaries with students, are also in a prosperous condition; containing a larger number of young men looking forward to the ministry than usual; and some of them are also increasing their endowments, which is always a sign of growth.

And we congratulate our Church, that, though three of our pulpits, in growing and prosperous cities at the West, have recently been made vacant by the election of their incumbents to the presidency of Colleges, namely: Rev. Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Rev. Harvey Curtis, D. D., and Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., and two of them since the last meeting of the General Assembly, the institutions themselves, under their auspices, have entered upon a new career of usefulness, and promise much good in our Church.

The number of candidates for the ministry has manifestly increased during the existence of the Assembly's Permanent Committee; and the difficulty in meeting their expenses is not because [34] more money is not raised than heretofore, but because the number of applicants fully keeps pace with the increase of contributions.

But your Committee would call attention to the fact, that this increase in candidates and contributions falls far short of the necessities of the Church. The vital, the primary want of our Church—that which underlies and cripples all our efforts to extend the Church into regions where multitudes are perishing for lack of the Gospel, is, ministers of the Gospel. Promising fields of labor are left wholly unoccupied; and others, equally promising and once occupied, are abandoned to destitution and decay, for want of men to cultivate them. Our present rate of increase will barely keep up the supply of our own Church; but is entirely inadequate to the growth of the country.

We must not forget, however, that our duties extend to "all the world." In a sense, more emphatic than ever before, it may now be said, that the world is open, and waiting to receive the Gospel. All our missionaries are calling for assistance; and hundreds of millions are now accessible, who, but a little while since, were wholly beyond the reach of the Gospel. The Church of Christ is essentially a missionary Church. Our life and strength depend on our efforts to give the Gospel to "all the world."

The Committee would respectfully ask the Assembly, if the late wide-spread work of grace, in which so many of our churches have shared, should not be expected to give a new impetus to the work of ministerial education. Large numbers of young men have been converted, and a deeper interest is awakened in the welfare of the world. Shall we not fail of the blessing that God intended for us, if we do not secure enlarged contributions, and an increasing number of candidates for the ministry?

In addition to the annual report of the Permanent Committee, your Committee have had a prolonged conference with the representatives of the various local societies in our bounds, in order to secure, if possible, an adjustment of their operations with the operations of the Permanent Committee; and, though the subject is still attended with difficulties, all parties have been made more fraternal, harmonious, and hopeful.

The Committee, therefore, recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Assembly has undiminished confidence in the plan for promoting the increase of the ministry, adopted by the Assembly of 1857; the more it is examined, and the better it is understood, the more worthy of confidence does it appear.

2. That, though the Permanent Committee and their Secretary have encountered many embarrassments, in the incipiency of their enterprise, yet, in the judgment of the Assembly, they are doing a great work; and we heartily concur with the two Assemblies last past, in commending them to the favor of the churches.

3. That the ultimate result, towards which we should aim, is the universal adoption of this plan as soon as practicable; and that it be commended to the favorable notice of all our Presbyteries; [35] and further, that all local societies within our bounds, whose existence seems necessary for the time being, be requested, as far as possible, to adjust themselves to it.

4. That, in the judgment of this Assembly, no student ought to receive from educational funds, a larger appropriation than is contemplated in the plan of the General Assembly; and that ministers, and professors in Colleges and Seminaries, be requested to discountenance all partiality, and scrupulously adhere to the Assembly's plan in this regard.

5. That, for this purpose, all Presbyteries and Colleges and Theological Seminaries, be requested to send to the Permanent Committee, the names of all students under their care who receive aid, with the amount apportioned by them.

6. That, in order to facilitate the connection of the Permanent Committee with every part of the Church, every Synod be requested to appoint a corresponding member, as a medium of communication between the Committee and the Presbyteries, pastors and churches; and that, until such appointments be made, the following persons be requested to serve in their respective Synods in that capacity, viz.:

Rev. Eber M. Rollo, of the Synod of Albany,
" William S. Curtis, D. D., " Utica,
" Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., " Onondaga,
" William N. McHarg, " Geneva,
" Julius S. Pattengill, " Susquehanna,

Rev. Frank F. Ellinwood, of the Synod of Genesee,
" Asa D. Smith, D. D., " New York and New Jersey,
" George A. Lyon, D. D., " West Pennsylvania,
" George Duffield, Jr., " Pennsylvania,
" Lucius D. Chapin, " Michigan,
" Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., " Western Reserve,
" Addison Kingsbury, D. D., " Ohio,
" D. Howe Allen, D. D., " Cincinnati,
" John G. Atterbury, " Indiana,
" Caleb Mills, LL.D., " Wabash,
" William D. Sanders, " Illinois,
" J. Ambrose Wight, " Peoria,
" S. Granby Spees, " Wisconsin,
" Erastus J. Gillett, D. D., " Iowa,
" Edward D. Neill, " Minnesota,
" Samuel H. Willey, " Alta California.

7. That the common mode of raising funds for this cause is, at present, a necessity; but that the perfection of the work, in the judgment of the Assembly, is the endowment of scholarships, held in trust by the Assembly's Committee under its charter; and that any thing short of this is liable to affect injuriously the churches and the young men who receive their benefactions.

8. That we cannot disguise the fact, that no plans or rules can [36] compensate for the want of a livelier interest on this subject in all our churches —which interest would obviate all our difficulties, and silence all complaints in all parts of the Church.

9. That the Permanent Committee be requested to appeal to the churches, to make immediate and special efforts to replenish the general treasury for Education; and that they be urged to contribute both for present exigencies and wants, and, also, for a permanent endowment, that the support of applicants may not depend on the scanty and uncertain contributions of the Church.

10. That it is the opinion of this Assembly, that $35,000, which is but little more than twenty-five cents for each member of our churches, is the very least amount that our Church, or its members, ought to be content to raise for this cause during the coming year; and we recommend that this Assembly—all our ministers, elders, and private members—give their hands to this cause with new energy, and more fervent supplications that the Lord would "send forth" more "laborers into his harvest;" for "the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."

11. To this end, we recommend to the Permanent Committee, that they secure, if possible, from time to time, the publication, in our religious newspapers, of such statistics and statements on the subject, as shall keep it before the churches; and, also, if the way be open, secure, through the Publication Committee, the publication of some appropriate work, to be put into the hands of pious parents and pious young men.

12. The Committee recommend the election of the following persons as members of the Permanent Committee, to serve for three years:

Rev. A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D., Walter S. Griffith, William E. Dodge, Jr., and Alfred C. Post, M. D.; also, to serve for two years, in the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of William A. Booth, Rev. Robert R. Booth; and to serve for one year, in the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. William Hogarth, Hon. Cyrus P. Smith.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 31*st*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, was resumed. A resolution, relative to the use of the "Church Melodies" in social meetings, together with a recommendation of the Standing Com[37]mittee in reference to the preparation of a Hymn and Tune Book for such meetings, was referred to the Permanent Committee on Publication.

The report, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication respectfully present to the General Assembly the following report on the several subjects referred to them.

These are: (1.) The annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House. (2.) A resolution to the effect, that the annual reports of the Permanent Committees be published in yearly volumes in uniform style. (3.) A communication from Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Assembly of 1856 to arrange the Book of Psalms for purposes of chanting. (4.) The annual report of the Permanent Publication Committee.

The first of these consists of the reports of the Secretary, Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace; of the late Treasurer, Edward S. Whelan; and of the present Treasurer, John C. Farr, for the year ending May 1st, 1859.

The reports of the Treasurers are duly audited. The report of the Secretary states, in substance, that the title-deeds of the Presbyterian House are now in the hands of the Permanent Trustees, and that there is a balance in the Treasurer's hands of $524.47. He also states that the term of service of John C. Farr, Charles S. Wurts, Rev. John Patton, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, expires with the meeting of this Assembly.

Your Committee recommend the re-appointment of these individuals for another term; that the proceedings of the Trustees, as detailed in the Secretary's report, be approved; and that the Assembly express to them their high gratification at the results achieved thus far, and their hearty thanks for the good service they are rendering our beloved Zion.

In regard to the Publication of the annual reports, we would state, that each Permanent Committee now publishes and circulates, to a considerable extent, its own report, and bears the expense; that our religious weeklies insert synopses of them free of charge; and that the only satisfactory change, at present practicable or desirable, seems to be, that the several Committees, each bearing its own expense as now, intrust the printing of their report to the Publication Committee; and that the latter print them in uniform style, with their own *imprimatur*. The reports will then be in shape, both for easy circulation, and also for binding and preservation. This change in the publication of the annual reports of our Permanent Committees we recommend.

In reference to the communication of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., the Committee find themselves embarrassed, from the fact, [38] that the report of the Committee presented in 1857 is not before them. They, therefore, beg leave to refer this matter to the discretion of the Permanent Committee on Publication.

With the proceedings of the Permanent Committee on Publication, as detailed in the report of their Secretary, Rev. John W. Dulles, this Committee feel that the Assembly have every reason to be gratified.

The trust committed to them is one of immense importance and magnitude. As a means of denominational development and growth, of home evangelization, and even of aggressive missionary movements through the world, the press is second only to the pulpit. Just in proportion to the advance of the world in intelligence, will the importance of the press, as a means of evangelization, be enhanced.

The Christian denomination which, in our day, neglects to employ this agency, is unfaithful to her trust. And the Church that employs it partially, irresolutely, with divided counsels, and half a heart, is so far forth in the same condemnation.

The Permanent Committee on Publication seem properly to appreciate their trust. Considering the small means put into their hands, they have done well and nobly.

They have materially diminished the indebtedness with which they commenced the year.

They now present us with a completed Psalm and Hymn Book, the property of this Assembly, and a work pronounced, by competent judges, to be the best extant.

The Book of Tunes, which the Assembly of 1857 directed them to prepare, will be ready next autumn. We have every reason to suppose that it will be a fit companion for the Psalm and Hymn Book.

Thus our denomination will, in a few months, possess that great desideratum—the means of uniformity in public praise. This your Committee deem only less important than a uniform Confession of Faith, or a uniform system of Church polity.

The Permanent Committee have also issued several new and valuable tracts. We would especially commend No. 5, of the first series—"Presbyterianism Explained." It is remarkably readable and clear, and, if properly circulated, will do much towards commending our polity to thinking minds. Our chief vantage ground over other evangelical denominations lies in our polity. We should set it before the world accurately, prominently, and widely.

Several practical works by an English writer, and a select Sabbath-school library of thirty volumes, are among the issues of the year.

Though last named, yet by no means least in importance, is "The American Presbyterian Almanac," which is doing our cause great service. They recommend a much larger issue for the coming year, and that no pains, or reasonable expense, be spared to make it at least equal to any kindred publication. [39]

The publication of that much-needed work, "The Digest of the Acts of the General Assembly," is delayed for want of funds.

The receipts of the Permanent Committee on Publication demand heedful attendance.

Though much more encouraging than the year previous, we are compelled to say that they bear no suitable proportion to the ability of the denomination, or the magnitude and importance of the cause.

Of the $16,000 which the last Assembly recommended to be raised, more than $7000 are yet behind. Our churches do not seem to realize that something like an endowment fund is needed, in order properly and economically to initiate this great publication enterprise; that annual collections will be needed, until this point of endowment is reached, and even after, if we would give the Committee ability to make grants of publications, and to put on foot suitable agencies for circulation. The impression, which seems to have obtained in some quarters, that the $16,000 asked for, last year, was all that would be required, is entirely erroneous. The Permanent Committee meant to say, that that sum would enable them to meet certain pressing existing obligations, and to commence in a small way their great work. But they did not intend to intimate, that any such sum was all that the exigencies of the case would ever demand. With all our general benevolence, we are still too prone to withhold the means which are absolutely necessary to conduct and sustain our own institutions.

We, therefore, recommend: (1.) That it be urged upon those portions of our Church, which have as yet done nothing towards raising the $16,000 recommended by the last Assembly, to show their diligence in this good work during the month of June next, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

(2.) That it be enjoined upon all our churches, to make an annual collection for the Publication cause in the month of October.

(3.) That all churches making this annual collection be permitted, if they so elect, to order for their own use any publications of the Committee, to the amount of one-half their respective collections.

The adoption of these resolutions will not only put money into the Treasury of our Publication Committee, but will, also, do much to promote the circulation of our publications.

Further: we think that this Assembly should specially urge upon our pastors and elders the duty, the privilege, and the great advantage of placing our own publications in our families and Sabbath-school libraries.

In the great work of Christian education and spiritual training to which we are called, we should give the preference to our own pulpit and our own press. We should see that the two speak in unison; and that the teachings of the press confirm and fortify the utterances of the pulpit.

We recommend the re-appointment of Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. [40] George Duffield, Jr.; and Rev. Henry Darling, whose term of service expires with this session of the Assembly.

We also recommend as the preacher for the next Assembly, Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., principal, and Rev. J. Ambrose Wight, alternate.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented their amended report, which was accepted; and, pending the discussion on its adoption, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 31*st*, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Permission was granted to the Commissioner of the Presbytery of Keokuk to withdraw the papers pertaining to the case of James H. Shields.

The unfinished business was then taken up; and the report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Church Extension beg leave to report on the papers referred to them relating to Church Extension.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee impresses us, more deeply than ever, with the indispensableness and vast importance of the work with which they are charged; and contains gratifying evidence of its enlargement, and of the rapidly growing interest that is enlisted in it. The contributions to their Treasury are seventy per cent. in advance of those of the previous year, and two hundred and fifty per cent. in advance of those of the year prior to that; and, while the missionaries and exploring agents employed have been considerably multiplied, the openings and calls for the service they perform, urgently demanding immediate attention, far exceed the means in the hands of the Committee, and earnestly appeal to our churches, to place this cause on a par with the most prominent objects of their pecuniary benevolence. Our own country is the field for which American Christians are especially responsible, and for which they should feel especially concerned, in fulfilling the command to evangelize the world; and the teaching of the Gospel, by the living pastor and preacher, is the chief instrumentality by which the duty is to be discharged. The denomination of Christians, represented by this General Assembly, has hitherto principally employed the American Home Missionary Society, as its agency for the prosecution of domestic missions. The organization, from which that Society proceeded, was formed in the bounds, and by the members, of our Church; and its origin, and the capital of various kinds which it has accumulated, make it impossible, as a matter of feeling, of in[41]terest, and of justice, that we should abandon it to those whom we have received as partners in it. We can leave it, only on the dissolution of the firm, and the setting up of its members in new establishments. But, while this is true, the number and magnitude of the cases, for which the American Home Missionary Society cannot or does not provide, make it imperative upon us, largely to swell our contributions to the Church Extension scheme, so that its operations may correspond to the demands upon it, without the incurring of a farthing of debt. The purpose of the Permanent Committee, to equalize their appropriations and receipts, deserves cordial approbation; and the Standing Committee respectfully propose that the Assembly should be understood as recognizing this principle, for the guidance of the Permanent Committee, in complying with the recommendations made in a subsequent part of this report.

So important are all the departments of labor assigned to the Permanent Committee, that it is almost impossible to give the precedence to either. The Standing Committee, however, have been particularly impressed with the necessity and value of the work of exploring new and destitute fields, and organizing churches on them. It cannot be dispensed with. To neglect or inefficiently conduct it, is unfaithfulness to our trust. Its results are immediate, as well as abundant and large. An exploring agent, for example, entered Kansas, about six months since, and during the sessions of this Assembly we have received the Presbytery of Kansas into our connection. The Committee recommend that this branch of the Church Extension work be prosecuted with quickened energy and zeal; and they would designate Nebraska, California, and Oregon, as fields for which exploring agents should be commissioned forthwith, if the requisite funds can be procured. The peculiar circumstances of Missouri commend it to us. The fast increasing portion of its people, in sympathy with the spirit of our Church, and accordant with its position on matters of controlling movement and interest, makes the summons irresistible to help her. The near approach of the settlement of titles to land in California, the dubiousness of which has thus far hindered Church Extension there, by hindering Church Erection, opens the way for our building fund, and so gives a free course for the advancement of our Church; while the geographical position and natural resources of Nebraska and Oregon, render certain the gathering of a vast population, the laying of the foundations of society there is a work in which love to God and man requires us to take part.

The Committee propose Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Henry Darling, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., John A. Brown, and Hon. William Pennington, to fill vacancies occasioned by the expiration at this time of terms of office in the membership of the Permanent Committee; and Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., to take the place of Rev. William Adams, D. D., who has resigned.

Several Overtures, also, have been placed in the hands of the Committee. [42]

The Presbytery of Dakota prays the General Assembly to send missionaries to the Southern States, to establish churches; and to instruct the missionaries not to receive slaveholders to the Church, until the sin of slaveholding shall have been renounced. The Committee recommend that the Presbytery be respectfully referred to the Permanent Committee.

The Presbyteries of Alton, Bloomington, and Chicago, complain of the action of the American Home Missionary Society, in withholding appropriations from churches connected with Presbyteries that employ exploring agents without the commission of the American Home Missionary Society; and from such as are connected with Presbyteries, the churches of which do not contribute, to the full measure of their ability, to the Treasury of the American Home Missionary Society. The following resolutions of the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society have been published in a letter from the pen of one of the Secretaries:

"A communication having been received by the Presbytery of Alton, inclosing a minute adopted by that body at its late meeting, in reference to the terms of co-operation;

"*Resolved*, I. That the Presbytery be informed that the following principles govern the Society in co-operating with auxiliaries and ecclesiastical bodies, and this Committee will be happy to co-operate with the Presbytery on the same terms, viz.:

"1st. That the missionaries laboring within the bounds of an auxiliary, or ecclesiastical body, be commissioned by this Society, and be governed in their labors by its principles.

"2d. That the funds raised on the field be applied to cancel the pledges contained in the commissions, and be acknowledged by the Society as contributed to its treasury.

"3d. That the churches on the field co-operate cordially with the Society in the raising of funds, and contribute yearly to its treasury, according to the full measure of their ability.

"*Resolved*, II. That this Committee continue to regard the work of exploring and occupying new fields of labor, as one of great importance; and, by sustaining general exploring agents, and other itinerant laborers, having missionary circuits, more or less extensive, as circumstances may require, they are enabled to reach every portion of the field, and carry forward with harmony and efficiency every department of the missionary work."

The General Assembly can never approve of these resolutions, if they are to be interpreted as,

1. Denying the right of our Presbyteries, in our present relations to the American Home Missionary Society, to appoint, solely on their own authority, one or more exploring missionaries within their bounds; or as,

2. Asserting it as a sufficient reason why the Society should withhold aid from the feeble churches of a Presbytery, that other churches of such Presbytery contribute the whole, or a portion, of their Home Missionary Funds elsewhere than to the treasury of that Society. [43]

Churches, in the condition of those just referred to, ought not to be left to suffer, and perhaps to perish; and, with a view to them, and also to churches situated like those in Missouri, the powers and duties of the Church Extension Committee ought to be expanded. It has hitherto devolved upon them: 1. To employ agents for purposes of exploration; 2. To aid churches in the chartered limits of cities and large towns; 3. To plant Presbyterian churches in places where sister denominations had not previously occupied the ground; and 4. To answer applications that require prompt and immediate replies, and that will not admit of the delay incident to requests preferred in other directions.

In view of the new classes of exceptional cases to which they have referred, the Committee recommend, that the province of the Permanent Committee be still further enlarged, so that they may be authorized to provide for churches, that can receive adequate aid from no other source. And to meet the increased draft, that must thus be made upon their treasury, it is desirable that additional force should be given to their agency for collecting funds.

The report of the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society has been referred to this Committee, and the following preamble and resolution are recommended for the adoption of the General Assembly:

Whereas, The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, represented in this General Assembly, has hitherto prosecuted the work of domestic missions, principally through the agency of the American Home Missionary Society; and *whereas* complaints have been made to the General Assembly, from year to year, and with increasing earnestness, of the mode in which that agency has been conducted, particularly in the Western and North-western States and Territories; Therefore,

Resolved, That a *Commission* of the General Assembly is hereby raised, consisting of Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Harvey Curtis, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., Mr. Norman White, Mr. James B. Pinneo, and Hon. William Jessup, (any four of them at a meeting properly called to constitute a quorum;) to ascertain, by a thorough investigation, the facts in the case; and to procure such other information as may be in their power, relating to the history of our connection with the work of Home Missions, and our present relations to it; also, to learn the principles and modes of the administration of the American Home Missionary Society over the entire field of its operations; and to submit the whole, well authenticated, to the next General Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported

No. 1. A petition from the Presbyterian church of Bainbridge, Ind., asking for a transfer of relation from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville to the Presbytery of Green Castle. [44]

It has been ascertained, by the Committee, that the church of Bainbridge has failed to confer with the Presbytery with which it is connected, on the subject of this petition to the Assembly. They have also learned from a member of the Presbytery, that such a conference, together with further consideration of all the circumstances, may change the feelings which have induced this petition. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the petitioners be advised to confer with their Presbytery on the subject, and that the transfer of their ecclesiastical relation be postponed, at least, for one year.

No. 2. On the adjustment of the Roll. The Committee recommend that the Synod of Mississippi, having notified the Assembly of their withdrawal from our connection, be stricken from the Roll.

The Committee further state, that they have information that the Synod of Kentucky has been dissolved; and that the Synods of East and West

Tennessee have abjured the jurisdiction of the Assembly, and formally connected themselves with another ecclesiastical body; and we would, therefore, recommend that these Synods be stricken from the Roll.

The Committee further state, that, though the Synod of Virginia has formally withdrawn, and the Synod of Missouri assumed an independent position in reference to this Assembly, still there is evidence to believe, that there are many brethren, and even Presbyteries, in the bounds of these Synods, who sympathize with us, and who desire, in due time, to resume their connection with us; we, therefore, advise that the names of these Synods be retained, until these brethren have determined upon the relation they desire to occupy.

No. 3. An Overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, on the demission of the ministry.

The Committee recommend the appointment of a *Committee* consisting of Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., and Mr. Walter S. Griffith, to consider the subject, and report to the next General Assembly.

No. 4. An Overture from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, on amending the Book of Discipline.

In the opinion of the Committee, the Book of Discipline, especially in relation to some of the points submitted in the Overture, might be improved. It is their judgment, however, that the inconvenience to the Church, arising from the imperfections contemplated, is not so great, as to render it expedient for the General Assembly to attempt any revision at the present time. The Committee are constrained to regard other questions and principles, bearing on the present peace, and the prospective influence and usefulness of our branch of the Presbyterian church, as more important; the proper adjustment of which must require the concentrated wisdom of the General Assembly. Until these are finally and permanently settled, their discussion will require too much of the time and care of subsequent Assemblies, to allow sufficient space for the due consideration of changes in our Book of Discipline. [45]

Urged, therefore, by the conviction that the object prayed for is so grave as to require consideration, which our Church is not now in the best position to give it, your Committee beg to recommend, that the appointment of a committee to submit to the General Assembly revisions of the Book of Discipline be indefinitely postponed.

No. 5. On the action of the Synod of Geneva and the Presbytery of Ithaca in the transfer of a church from one Presbytery to another, the Committee judge that the matter does not come before them in due form for any action by this body.

The report of the Committee on each of these subjects was adopted.

They also made a report on the report of the Committee on Formulas; also on the case of persons who are members of the Church and wish to renounce their covenant vows; and their report on these subjects was placed on the docket.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported paper No. 5, a memorial on Slavery, from the Presbytery of Kansas. The Committee recommend no further action on the subject.

No. 6. A petition signed by C. Van Rensselaer, Benj. J. Wallace, and Geo. H. Stuart, asking a recommendation of a collection for the Presbyterian

Historical Society. The Committee concur in the recommendation. The report was adopted.

A communication was received from the Delegate of the General Association of Connecticut, and read to the Assembly.

The Committee, to which was referred the paper on the subject of Lay Agency, presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, appointed to consider the Overture of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, inquiring as to the expediency of organizing a lay agency in the work of evangelization, beg leave, respectfully, to report:

They have taken the inquiry presented in the Overture under careful consideration, and are of the unanimous opinion, that no such organization is needed by the Church as is therein suggested. In declaring this opinion, they would not be understood as disparaging in any way the importance of lay efforts in advancing the Gospel. It is one of the cardinal doctrines of Protestants, that the proper sanctification and efficiency of the Church depends, in a large degree, on the constant exercise of all the natural talents and spiritual gifts of its members in the service of the Lord. Believing, though we do. in the divine appointment of a specially trained and ordained ministry, we do by no means confine to it the blessed work of bearing witness for Christ, by words and ex[46]ample. The divine word makes it the duty of every believer to let his light shine. and the savor of his salt be diffused; and so to contribute, according to his ability. unto the edification of the Church, and the saving of souls. This duty can never be too earnestly enforced and carried out. Its faithful observance is the very life of the Church, and the administrative skill of a minister and session is nowhere more signally shown, than in the means which they employ to bring every church member under their care to realize and carry out the obligation. But, in order to this, your Committee believe, that no new ecclesiastical provision is required. Indeed it is to be feared, that such provision would hinder rather than promote the good sought. The excellence of lay agency consists very largely in its voluntary character. It tells upon the people, because it is the free out-going of earnest and irrepressible sentiments and convictions, and because it is neither commissioned nor rewarded by man. We rob it of its peculiar power and efficiency, when we render it perfunctory. Very undesirable is it, therefore, to change its character, and convert it into a second-rate ministry, liable to assert pretentions for which it is not qualified. The history of the Church, in times past, too clearly sets forth the evils arising from the creation of such an order, for us to venture on the renewal of the measure.

Accordingly your Committee recommend that no action be taken by the Assembly in the matter proposed; excepting.

1. To declare it, as our unanimous judgment, that the liberty conceded, by our excellent polity, for the free exercise of all spiritual gifts in an orderly manner, renders the organization of any lay agencies superfluous.

2. To urge on all pastors and sessions, that they exert themselves, in all suitable ways, for the development, the employment and direction of all the lay talent existing in their churches, unto the upbuilding of the Redeemer's kingdom, and the glory of his name.

The Rev. Messrs. John Jenkins, Thomas J. Shepherd, and Benjamin J. Wallace, with Messrs. John C. Farr, and Charles S. Wurts, were chosen Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the respective railroad companies, who have kindly consented to a reduction of their ordinary fare, in favor of the Commissioners and others, who have been in attendance on the sessions of this Assembly.

Also, to the citizens of Wilmington, whose large-hearted hospitality has been so generously extended to the Assembly, and rendered their sojourn so pleasant and so gratefully memorable, with the assurance of the fervent prayer of the Assembly, that they and theirs may be abundantly "recompensed in the resurrection of the just."

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness [47] and assiduity, in providing for the convenience and comfort of their numerous visitors on this occasion.

Also, to the Trustees of the Central Presbyterian church, for the use of their beautiful house of worship, and its ample accommodations.

Also, to the choirs of the two Presbyterian churches, for their appropriate and excellent services during the sessions.

Also, to the editor of the *Daily Journal and Statesman*, for his enterprise in reporting, from day to day, the proceedings of the Assembly.

Also, to the Rev. John W. Mears, for the able and correct manner in which he furnished that paper with the report of the proceedings.

Also, to the Moderator, the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., for the admirable manner in which he has presided over the Assembly; and for the Christian courtesy which he has constantly extended to the Commissioners.

Also, that the Assembly appreciate and acknowledge the courtesy of the citizens of Wilmington, as shown in the steamboat excursion of yesterday, on their beautiful river and bay.

Adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 31st, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was taken up, adopted, and is as follows: to the

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., principal; and Rev. William H. McCarer, alternate.

2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. James Eells, principal; and Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, alternate.

3. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. David Murdock, D. D., principal; and Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, alternate.

4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. George A. Lyon, D. D., principal; and Walter S. Drysdale, alternate.

5. *General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., principal; and Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., alternate.

6. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., principal; and Rev. William E. Knox, alternate.

7. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry N. Millerd, alternate.

8. *General Conference of Maine*—Rev. George F. Wiswell, principal; and Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, alternate. [48]

9. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Selden Haines, principal; and Rev. R. Richard Kirk, alternate.

10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Henry B. Holmes, principal; and Rev. Arthur Swazy, alternate.

The report of the Committee on a Formula of Doctrine, was then taken up; whereupon it was resolved, that the formula of doctrine, etc., be referred to the Permanent Committee on Publication; and that a sufficient number of copies be sent down to the Presbyteries with the request, that they express their views on the subject, and report to the next General Assembly.

The report of the Committee on the case of Delinquent Church Members was taken up, and it was resolved, in accordance with their recommendation, that the provisions of the Book of Discipline are all that is needed.

The Committee on Mileage offered a supplemental report, which was adopted, as follows:

The Mileage Committee report that they have attended to the supplementary duties assigned to them by the Assembly, viz.: To receive any funds that should be placed in their hands, to meet such cases of hardship as seemed to require relief; and that, in accordance with such provision, the Committee have received from the Presbyteries of Utica, Lyons, Philadelphia Fourth, Brooklyn, and Geneva, and from sundry individuals, $184.08.

And that from this fund, the Committee have met, to the satisfaction of every applicant, the demand which his case seemed to require; the amount thus disbursed is $128.50, leaving a balance in the hands of the Committee of $55.58. And they recommend that the balance ($55.58) be placed in the hands of the Stated Clerk, for the Contingent Fund of the General Assembly.

The Rev. George C. Curtis, the Delegate to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, made a report, which was accepted and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the churches to take up a collection for the treasury of the Church Extension Committee at their earliest convenience.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and of Directors of the Theological Seminaries, for the present year.

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions were re-appointed and instructed to arrange themselves into classes for one, two, and three years.

The Standing Committee on Education presented a report in relation to the Ingham University, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Assembly take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt, from the Chancellor of the Ingham University, of an account of its continued prosperity; and commend it to the patronage of the Christian public. [49]

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that the following Commissioners had been excused from further attendance on the sessions of the Assembly:

Rev. Levi P. Crawford, of the Presbytery of Ottawa.
" James R. Dunn, " " Bloomington.
" Samuel Lee, " " Portage.
" J. Jerome Ward, " " Niagara.
Hon. John O. Cole, " " Albany.
Elder Elijah Bemis, " " Huron.
Rev. Alfred Bryant, " " Kalamazoo.
" James C. Egbert, " " New York, Third.
" Edwin S. Wright, " " Buffalo.
" Sanford R. Bissell, " " Fort Wayne.
" Franklin Maginnis, " " Cleveland.
" Thomas S. Milligan, " " Green Castle.
Elder William D. Moore, " " Des Moines.

Elder Walter S. Griffith, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn.
Rev. Eber M. Rollo, “ “ Albany.
“ Philip S. Cleland, “ “ Indianapolis.
Elder Philander H. Roots, “ “ “
Rev. Edwards A. Beach, “ “ Pataskala.
Elder Matthew Newkirk, “ “ “
Rev. John Jenkins, “ “ Philadelphia, Third.

The Standing Committees severally reported, that they had no further business in hand, and were discharged.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for printing and stationery, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to New Hampshire, Wisconsin, the Lutheran Synod, and the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, with the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, and the traveling expenses of the Moderator of the last Assembly, were ordered to be paid.

A claim for traveling expenses, in attendance on one of the committees of the Assembly, was referred to the Stated Clerk, with instructions to be governed by the usage in such cases.

The Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., was appointed a Delegate, on his own charges, to the next General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.

The Roll was called, and the following Commissioners were found absent without leave:

Ministers—R. Richard Kirk, Edward Lord, Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Charles Wadsworth, Daniel C. Houghton, D. D., Robert R. Booth, Bela Fancher, Lucius D. Chapin, Henry H. Northrop, William M. Ferry, James Eells, George A. Adams, Benjamin P. Aydelotte, D. D., Jeremiah P. E. Kumler, and Peter S. Van Nest.

Elders—Charles H. Metcalf, Thomas Potter, Alexander Whilldin, Joseph Francis, James M. Moorhead, Ninian Irwin, Thomas [50] Wood, Ebenezer B. Dewey, Truman P. Handy, Sylvanus Hatch, Joseph Riggs, and Robert G. Yonge.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Third Presbyterian church, in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on the third Thursday of May, 1860, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY KENDALL, *Permanent Clerk, pro tem.*

Wilmington, Del., May 31st, 1859.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1859.

ASSUMING that a Narrative should be a condensed and brief statement of facts, rather than a rhetorical dissertation, your Committee have endeavored to arrange, in as simple a manner as possible, the principal items contained in the accounts of those Presbyteries which have made any report: these are only sixty-five in number, or about two-thirds of the Presbyteries now in our connection—a fact to be noted at the beginning, as indicating a lamentable want of interest in one very important department of duty.

That which is most prominent in all the reports, as might be expected, is the history of the more abiding results of the great revival, an account of which formed the burden of the Narrative last year—a history most cheering and hopeful. Yet another fact, scarcely less generally mentioned, is, that the blessing, which last year descended especially upon our cities and large towns, has this year visited, to a very considerable degree, our country churches, manifesting the same peculiarities which were so marked in its previous influence. Taking the two years together, therefore, we may record, with profound gratitude to God, the display of his grace with unprecedented power over our whole Church; in which city and country alike rejoice, and the full effects of which will be known only when time shall end.

With these general statements we will proceed to speak of some things which should be more particularly noticed.

I. Items which Excite Gratitude and Hope.

1. There has been an elevated level of piety in our churches.

This might have been anticipated from the character of the work of grace which we have experienced. There was little of that excitement that must have reaction; but the new feeling seems rather like the lifting to the surface of an island, which had been long forming beneath the waters and has a rock foundation to the very bottom. This higher level appears, in the continued interest of a much larger number in the social meetings of the Church; in the increased, and, in many cases, new efforts put forth for the salvation of souls, especially in personal visitation, mission prayer-meetings, and Sunday-schools; and in the frequently expressed longing of Christians for a more full experience of the love of Christ. The natural fruit of this more earnest piety is declared, in the fact, expressed in almost all the reports of the Presbyteries, that there have been conversions in small numbers, where there have not been extensive revivals; and, in the majority of churches, some have been added at every communion; and that fruit is also to be seen, in the more faithful and beautiful illustration of our holy religion, in the daily lives of its professors.

2. There has been more general attention to the religious instruction of the young.

Hardly a Presbytery fails to report, that its Sunday-schools are flourishing, and that many more youth are gathered into Bible-classes than ever before; and many speak of a new interest in respect to catechetical instruction among parents and teachers, than which few things are more important to the future prosperity of our Church. From the statements made and the number of mission-schools mentioned, there can be no doubt that thousands more of children and youth are under regular religious culture in our churches than at any former period.

3. There has been a new disposition among the laymen of our churches, to engage in active labors for the conversion of men.

This has been more prominent in some localities than in others; yet it has been seen throughout the Church, and renders this a peculiar era in our history. Various opinions are expressed, as to the benefits of this lay Christian enterprise, and possibly caution may sometimes be needed; yet the results prove, that we have in it a powerful agency for usefulness which has been too long idle; and we hail the indications, that our members are willing to make themselves more efficient in the work of the Church, not only as promising to secure the salvation of more souls, but also as certain to promote a healthy development and growth in the Church itself, ardently to be desired.

4. There has been a permanent increase in prayer.

Of this, little need be said; as all know, that it has been the wonderful feature of the whole revival. It is noticed only, that it may be left on record, to the praise of Him who has promised to hear and answer his people. In city and country, in daily meetings and weekly meetings, in the mission circle, at the family altar and in the closet, there is testimony, that there have been new interest and power in prayer.

5. There has been a better observance of the Sabbath.

One of the most fearful facts of our national history, for the past ten years, has been a growing tendency to loose views respecting the sanctity of the Sabbath. The great influx of foreigners has contributed to this; but it was also apparent that many of our own people, and even of our church members, were willing to be sadly indifferent on this subject. Most hopeful is it, therefore, that accounts very generally speak of a new interest in the observance of God's holy day; and we may hope, that an abiding check will be given to that license in respect to it, which has excited the fears of those who believe that He is a jealous God, who has commanded us to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

6. There have been a larger number of young men ready to begin a preparation for the ministry, and more interest in our plan of ministerial education.

When it is considered, that most of the converts during the past year and a half are from among the young, a most cheering future opens before us; and when, from this number, scores, if not hundreds, are turning their attention to the Gospel ministry, at this time when the world demands so many who shall be able preachers of the Word, an importance attaches to our efforts for their education, which, it is most hopeful to see, many of our Presbyteries are beginning to feel. Let us believe, that the indications of this year are but the earnest of the future.

7. There has been most commendable effort in church-erection and the removal of church-debts.

The lack of money, more pressing in many regions during the past year than during the year before, has not paralyzed our churches, as to securing for themselves houses in which they may worship God. Churches have been built; others have been repaired. The new zeal in spiritual things has opened the purses that were before thoroughly closed; rich churches in some of the cities have helped to cancel debts, which hung like mill-stones upon those which were more feeble; and the year has been memorable for this species of offerings upon God's altar. All history declares, that few churches can long prosper under the incubus of a heavy debt, especially where any alternative is presented to those whom they would attract; and one of the first and most earnest efforts of a church thus oppressed should be to become free.

8. There has been hearty support of general systems of benevolence, both voluntary and denominational.

Notwithstanding the difficulty in obtaining money, the facts show an increase, in the aggregate amount contributed by our Church, of several thousand dollars; attesting, that that most desirable point is being reached by our people, when they will sustain these means for general evangelization, not from impulse, but upon principle, at sacrifice to themselves, and with an intelligent conviction of their worth to the Church and to the world. It is worthy of grateful remark, that we have shown that a supreme desire to work for Christ may consist with proper ecclesiastical development. Particularly in this connection should the fact be stated, that some Presbyteries have taken new interest in looking after the feeble churches of their number; a course contemplated by our excellent polity, and eminently successful in the promotion of all good results, whenever undertaken in the proper manner and with the right spirit. It is to be hoped, that all our Presbyteries and individual churches will be thus provoked "to love and good works," as to those whom Providence has placed directly within their ability to bless.

Having given these particulars, which should excite us to gratitude, and encourage us to hope and labor and pray, the Committee would allude to

II. Some Items which Require Attention, that there may be Improvement or Reform.

1. The large number of our churches that have stated supplies in their pulpits. An examination reveals that we have only a little more than 400 pastors, and a little more than 600 stated supplies, which, in a Church the success of whose system must depend largely on the permanence of its ministry, needs no comment; and our churches should be earnestly advised to remedy what is so manifest an evil.

2. The large number of vacant churches, and of ministers without charge: we have more than 300, or not quite one-fifth of our churches, that have no regular preaching of the Gospel.

A most lamentable and alarming fact! We have nearly 300 ministers without charge; of whom, after deducting all who are engaged in our Colleges and Seminaries, and all those who are disabled by age or infirmity, there must be very many who might be employed in the proper work of the holy office.

It is to be hoped, that those, who have charge of this department of our Church affairs, will make the most strenuous efforts, by uniting little churches that are contiguous, and by aiding those that should be sustained, to strengthen those interests, most important, yet in danger of being overlooked, represented in our feeble churches. New territory is so inviting, that we are constantly tempted to establish ourselves where we may have an open field, to the serious harm of those churches to which we owe fostering care, and which are ready to perish. Our most pressing duty, now, is to cheer and help our small churches in thriving and populous districts.

3. The lack of interest respecting infant baptism.

A number of Presbyteries notice this with expressions of sadness; and, with God's covenant faithfulness towards his people as a fundamental principle of our Church, it is matter for deep regret, that the consecration of children to him in baptism has been so much neglected. Still, these reports are not to be taken as proof, that there has been an increase of indifference to this duty, but as proof that the attention of pastors has lately been more seriously directed to the evil; and they are, therefore, rather hopeful than otherwise as to the future. Our history, as a Church, fully demonstrates the pre-eminent value of this ordinance of God; and parents should be anxious to avail themselves of so precious an avenue of blessings upon themselves and upon their children.

4. The increase of intemperance in many regions.

Lamentations abound upon this point; and the chief cause assigned is, the disposition of many, even of those who have been regarded as temperance men, to drink the beverages which have recently become quite fashionable—such as lager beer and the various kinds of ale. It is with pleasure that we notice, however, a purpose to meet this evil, thus insinuating itself into our churches, with prompt opposition; and we may hope, that no proper means will be left untried for the suppression of so formidable a foe to all valuable interests.

These are the prominent items contained in the Presbyterial Reports, both as to what may encourage us, and engage our efforts to remove what works harm to the Church.

In view of them all, it is evident that praise should be our inscription upon the Ebenezer which we here erect; and a more thorough devotion to our work should be the blessing which we should seek for the year to come. Our Church has never been in a position of more hope, or possessed more elements of strength, than at present. May God give us grace to enter upon our mission afresh, with the right spirit, and in the adoption of proper means, that we may secure a brilliant record of achievements for his glory in the salvation of men!

In conclusion, we are called upon to record the ravages of death among our ministers, while we are grateful that so few have been taken from us when compared with the reports of former years.

The number of those who have died during the year is fourteen, and their names are as follows:

Rev. Leonard Johnson,	Presbytery of	Chenango.
“ Thomas S. Brittan,	“	Brooklyn.
“ Thomas P. Hunt,	“	Philadelphia, 4th.
“ James H. Rice,	“	Erie.
“ Lawrence Streit,	“	Meadville.
“ Alexander B. Corning,	“	Washtenaw.
“ Truman Coe,	“	Grand River.
“ John Thompson,	“	Crawfordsville.
“ Amos P. Brown,	“	Schuyler.
“ Morrison Huggins,	“	Belvidere.
“ Alexander Montgomery,	“	“
“ John D. Strong,	“	Columbus.
“ Adams W. Platt,	“	Iowa City.
“ George M. Crawford,	“	Lexington.

By order of the General Assembly.

ROBERT W. PATTERSON, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.........	1803	5	81	4	11	70	663	162	8,639	261	156	$233 28	$3,174 36	$3,874 87	$835 06	$3,623 50	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	...	1	21	247	46	2,369	85	35	88 80	664 80	1,174 72	23 54	464 12	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy	1820		24	3	...	18	178	41	2,504	89	40	50 92	850 96	1,323 02	130 49	1,167 74	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	14	1	6	12	106	44	1,714	34	43	43 06	642 94	403 96	475 03	730 47	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	5	...	4	6	26	16	924	13	8	......	350 00	435 00	170 00	280 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill..................	1851	...	14	...	...	13	106	15	1,128	40	30	50 50	665 66	538 17	36 00	981 17	Leonard B. Van Dyck.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA..........	1829	4	67	3	11	73	547	194	6,986	159	152	236 17	1,721 07	2,394 40	1,199 23	2,233 63	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence..........	1818	...	8	...	2	6	41	10	607	...	16	36 15	155 75	304 16	33 00	188 56	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown............	1822	...	11	...	1	21	80	41	2,013	24	50	79 00	400 46	776 32	196 84	524 63	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego..................	1823	...	8	...	...	14	128	45	1,301	40	33	4 80	516 06	514 47	87 36	360 65	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	41	3	8	32	298	98	3,065	95	53	116 22	648 80	799 45	882 03	1,158 79	Samuel W. Brace.
III. SYNOD OF GENEVA......	1812	6	107	4	33	92	848	315	9,617	335	220	266 60	2,694 76	2,249 85	1,412 59	2,169 39	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva..................	1805	...	34	4	15	16	269	87	2,204	86	55	34 20	781 13	953 85	576 66	700 25	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath	1817	...	15	...	...	17	98	30	1,411	40	26	32 20	233 79	113 50	79 67	2 00	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	20	...	6	20	154	71	2,039	64	41	45 50	401 00	364 35	207 00	530 00	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	11	...	3	9	111	49	1,286	53	8	70 70	416 23	364 09	272 19	325 55	Lewis Kellogg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	12	...	...	15	77	17	606	31	45	24 95	93 00	80 37	6 00	37 00	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons....................	1856	...	15	...	9	15	139	61	2,071	61	45	59 05	769 61	373 69	271 07	574 59	William N. McHarg.
IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA...	1855	4	83	22	25	69	705	221	7,823	295	200	322 75	2,862 41	3,145 72	2,765 54	2,406 80	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga..............	1810	...	25	...	6	23	212	57	2,480	75	47	97 75	1,154 33	915 36	817 46	598 94	Royal A. Avery.
2. Cayuga..................	1810	...	32	22	6	21	237	85	2,270	104	54	112 00	915 78	1,017 76	1,484 28	1,042 17	Henry N. Millerd.
3. Cortland..	1825	...	14	...	7	16	134	42	1,709	62	67	42 00	486 89	615 73	242 80	460 54	Samuel N. Robinson.
4. Tioga.....................	1829	...	12	...	6	9	122	37	1,364	54	32	71 00	305 41	896 87	221 00	305 15	Samuel H. Hall.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	41	1	10	51	197	72	4,001	69	59	77 85	1,139 06	1,280 85	451 83	629 07	David Torrey.
1. Otsego....................	1820	...	13	...	2	16	90	28	1,384	31	13	46 00	287 83	471 42	59 50	180 18	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango.................	1826	...	15	...	1	18	69	31	1,675	30	20	22 25	387 15	416 17	147 47	226 68	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	13	1	7	17	38	13	942	8	26	9 60	464 08	393 26	244 86	222 21	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE	1821	6	124	8	13	104	1002	411	13,121	408	300	392 52	5,293 80	4,249 44	2,563 86	6,455 90	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	43	...	13	32	427	163	3,782	162	141	175 00	2,482 39	1,974 96	1,170 17	1,434 11	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	13	131	36	1,682	45	25	53 00	384 67	399 65	154 97	167 23	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	26	3	...	16	209	108	2,725	83	43	19 00	663 57	811 97	344 87	2,923 95	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	14	2	...	15	99	31	1,341	54	29	34 52	653 18	372 08	422 04	306 71	Gabriel S. Corwin.
5. Niagara	1823	...	16	2	...	18	83	53	2,484	39	33	63 00	894 07	578 93	367 81	1,566 34	J. Jerome Ward.
6. Genesee Valley........	1828	...	8	1	...	10	53	20	1,107	25	29	48 00	215 92	111 85	104 00	57 56	Nathan Allen.
VII. SYN. OF N. Y. AND N. J.	1788	9	231	41	92	156	2265	961	25,743	670	1014	1,199 00	30,146 50	29,874 32	43,720 29	9,617 66	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	17	...	2	13	101	41	1,732	57	48	93 75	354 47	470 29	224 36	559 10	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River............	1819	...	15	1	7	17	160	41	1,536	74	39	78 00	416 00	738 64	217 16	217 55	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	10	...	2	6	62	15	700	36	13	31 50	154 06	142 92	93 00	74 75	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	57	18	46	25	729	295	6,256	163	282	300 00	15,644 74	14,329 11	19,445 32	3,453 06	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	31	19	17	11	254	131	2,782	78	87	221 85	4,642 95	5,890 40	20,215 21	2,413 89	A. Augustus Wood, D. D.
6. Brooklyn................	1838	...	18	1	1	10	122	127	2,535	16	75	100 65	1,372 39	1,978 62	580 67	789 95	William S. Karr.
7. Newark..................	1824	...	37	1	10	21	536	182	5,378	115	372	221 70	6,182 89	4,722 95	2,182 32	1,177 98	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	21	...	...	20	208	57	2,485	98	34	66 52	399 00	666 00	566 00	765 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	25	1	7	33	93	72	2,339	33	64	85 03	980 00	935 39	196 25	166 38	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA..	1838	4	80	6	30	68	810	277	11,161	224	492	539 11	17,243 65	4,003 12	3,621 78	3,450 53	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	10	1	1	14	132	24	1,309	45	68	39 70	645 21	730 57	238 80	528 16	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	27	1	6	18	282	113	2,946	88	143	150 00	3,376 00	1,259 00	1,386 00	1,169 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	30	3	15	27	320	108	5,885	80	225	298 25	11,775 04	1,056 54	1,557 98	1,390 27	Thomas J. Shepard.
4. Harrisburgh............	1839	...	13	1	8	9	76	32	1,021	11	56	51 16	1,447 40	957 01	439 00	363 10	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN.	1843	3	20	...	6	36	283	90	2,936	66	121	129 45	2,468 24	1,368 22	646 58	872 79	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie........................	1801	...	9	...	3	14	128	33	1,234	33	38	60 10	335 99	352 22	72 08	454 79	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	5	...	1	16	113	10	946	24	49	24 35	78 25	35 00	133 50	82 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh.	1839	...	6	...	2	6	42	47	755	9	34	45 00	2,054 00	981 60	441 00	336 00	Samuel M. Sparks.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.......	1834	9	90	4	13	105	900	366	8,334	322	269	$351 56	$2,703 85	$3,165 07	$1,316 73	$1,873 40	William S. Huggins.
1. Detroit..................	1826	...	20	1	...	17	128	63	1,336	32	46	68 72	690 51	988 84	512 70	336 72	Eurotas P. Hastings.
2. Monroe	1833	...	11	1	3	15	108	38	1,368	56	50	52 00	579 72	447 20	246 55	307 91	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall..................	1838	..	11	...	2	15	119	66	1,170	26	16	39 83	243 35	291 71	82 11	......	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	12	2	8	11	321	68	1,474	111	65	56 65	186 08	414 94	289 63	321 97	Benjamin Franklin.
5. Kalamazoo..............	1838	...	11	...	...	12	51	40	1,095	21	17	51 61	464 75	699 16	111 74	694 05	Milton Bradley.
6. Cold Water..............	1856	...	7	...	...	12	24	26	808	9	11	37 50	116 66	143 05	6 00	81 25	Reuben S. Goodman.
7. Saginaw..................	1856	...	11	...	...	14	83	46	729	41	40	31 30	240 00	180 17	68 00	131 50	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley..	1857	...	5	...	...	4	66	19	293	26	24	13 95	182 78	......	......	......	Courtney Smith.
9. Lake Superior*........	1857	...	2	...	...	5	...	...	61								
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE	1825	7	106	6	36	86	563	321	6,580	181	209	212 16	2,576 09	2,936 20	1,243 29	2,276 74	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River*	1814	...	9	...	...	6	...	...	553	...	...	.....	......	......	......	......	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage.............. ...	1818	...	20	4	15	9	49	32	685	8	12	32 60	456 00	451 00	131 00	485 00	Levi B. Wilson.
3. Huron.....................	1823	...	15	...	1	15	93	42	1,156	46	55	50 10	316 57	454 98	112 80	205 97	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	11	...	7	14	66	37	1,189	17	27	32 31	321 14	365 80	14 75	232 20	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	27	2	8	15	189	75	1,510	58	45	67 15	924 88	1,159 94	341 90	913 89	James Shaw.
6. Elyria.........	1842	...	15	...	2	14	82	74	812	34	22	......	236 21	358 62	184 50	194 75	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee..................	1842	...	9	...	3	13	84	61	675	18	48	30 00	321 29	195 86	458 34	244 93	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.........	1814	4	44	3	13	72	273	156	4,726	77	190	140 61	1,763 76	1,816 73	1,248 30	1,177 03	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens....................	1822	...	4	...	...	19	47	33	744	11	20	49 86	68 25	76 00	56 00	114 00	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	2	6	24	79	55	1,775	21	43	25 35	724 20	596 24	278 90	8 17	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin.................	1835	..	16	1	7	19	80	36	1,416	31	53	25 40	410 03	576 72	138 15	112 87	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto.....................	1845	...	7	...	...	10	67	32	791	14	74	40 00	561 28	567 77	775 25	941 99	Joseph Chester.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI	1829	3	40	17	10	39	219	101	2,973	41	73	151 50	3,300 24	1,137 82	1,146 31	723 13	
1. Cincinnati...............	1828	...	24	13	9	17	104	49	1,403	2	25	71 00	2,842 00	597 00	581 00	523 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	9	...	1	11	66	38	901	19	35	40 00	429 00	465 00	547 00	179 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton.................	1846	...	7	4	...	11	49	14	669	20	13	40 50	29 24	75 82	18 31	21 13	Benjamin Graves.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA...	1826	4	43	...	14	62	335	127	3,432	111	175	180 45	1,713 47	1,659 93	935 51	612 60	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem...	1823	...	8	...	3	15	70	32	971	23	50	53 05	675 85	567 45	271 40	115 05	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison...	1825	...	14	...	9	16	140	34	1,012	44	47	50 70	447 70	331 93	170 70	329 65	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis...	1830	...	12	...	1	16	95	35	824	35	43	49 00	312 83	561 19	368 66	141 90	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle...	1850	...	9	...	1	15	30	26	625	9	35	27 70	277 09	199 36	124 75	26 00	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH...	1851	4	40	2	2	59	143	117	2,631	41	85	109 40	698 25	309 27	393 50	77 49	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville...	1825	...	15	...	...	11	37	35	514	16	21	32 00	210 75	147 82	127 35	24 50	Isaac De La Mater.
2. St. Joseph...	1833	...	9	2	...	18	11	15	824	6	15	21 00	289 60	46 45	17 00	......	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport...	1835	...	10	...	...	18	51	38	903	10	22	31 30	86 90	85 00	189 15	20 00	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne...	1845	...	6	...	2	12	44	29	390	9	27	25 10	111 00	30 00	60 00	32 99	John Fairchild.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS...	1831	4	62	1	6	84	209	168	4,111	63	100	185 35	2,779 21	699 28	711 02	911 56	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois...	1828	...	18	...	...	17	15	23	1,113	5	8	49 35	745 90	24 25	355 00	70 00	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler...	1833	...	15	1	...	20	87	53	1,071	31	37	52 10	607 31	375 13	112 02	361 86	George I. King.
3. Wabash...	1833	...	7	...	...	8	27	20	287	5	17	16 00	52 14	42 00	18 00	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton...	1836	...	22	...	6	39	80	72	1,640	22	38	67 90	1,373 86	257 90	226 00	479 70	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA...	1843	6	94	...	21	73	360	368	4,372	126	253	205 55	8,673 05	2,917 77	1,166 46	2,294 95	Asahel L. Brooks.
1. Ottawa...	1834	...	20	...	...	12	19	21	376	4	15	20 00	102 50	89 50	......	121 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox...	1836	...	14	...	...	5	34	27	506	4	10	24 05	115 00	91 00	48 00	100 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena...	1842	...	9	...	...	16	32	17	575	4	16	28 00	50 00	253 35	40 50	61 65	William J. Johnston.
4. Chicago...	1847	...	31	...	9	18	153	189	1,671	72	146	72 20	8,055 10	2,138 01	872 11	1,852 69	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere...	1847	...	11	...	10	8	76	71	778	32	46	36 90	170 64	271 61	205 85	109 61	Charles P. Bush.
6. Bloomington...	1857	...	9	...	2	14	46	43	466	10	20	24 40	179 81	74 30	......	50 00	Alfred Eddy.
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN.	1857	3	29	2	2	34	107	177	1,384	23	81	70 14	94 55	56 92	31 50	5 87	William A. Niles.
1. Milwaukee...	1851	...	12	...	2	10	56	122	643	11	56	35 65	33 53	30 92	4 50	5 87	William A. Niles.
2. Fox River...	1851	...	9	...	...	10	29	36	327	7	10	12 10	41 00	19 00	......	......	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus...	1856	...	8	2	...	14	22	19	414	5	15	22 39	20 02	7 00	27 00	......	Hiram Gregg.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA...	1853	6	53	2	10	74	207	151	2,003	62	97	73 55	314 20	335 64	173 30	195 17	Peter S. Van Nest.
1. Des Moines...	1845	...	5	1	...	10	17	17	204	2	6	9 00	12 65	27 00	......	10 67	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City...	1852	...	19	...	3	25	104	81	723	34	40	32 55	111 57	33 34	95 30	43 50	Samuel Storrs Howe.
3. Keokuk...	1852	...	13	...	7	18	43	37	719	15	29	21 00	101 88	82 30	78 00	140 00	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque...	1855	...	7	...	...	4	7	6	179	1	11	10 00	57 00	190 00	......	......	James H. Trowbridge.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
5. Iowa Valley............	1857	...	5	1	...	10	36	10	178	10	11	......	$31. 10	$3 00	......	$1 00	Williston Jones.
6. Kansas*....................	1859	...	4	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Isaac C. Beach.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA..	1858	3	19	...	1	15	43	46	500	9	16	$27 15	42 36	51 00	$125 00	60 00	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota....................	......	...	7	...	...	5	15	5	112	1	5	5 60	10 00	5 00	......	30 00	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	8	...	...	7	21	26	268	6	8	15 55	20 00	30 00	75 00	......	John Mattocks.
3. Winona...................	1857	...	4	...	1	3	7	15	120	2	3	6 00	12 36	16 00	50 00	30 00	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA..	1857	3	15	...	...	13	26	31	378	7	46	......	......	......	......	......	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	7	...	...	4	18	23	123	6	11	......	......	......	.. ...	......	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada*........	1857	...	3	...	...	4	...	...	133								
3. San José.................	1857	...	5	...	...	5	8	8	122	1	35	......	......	......	......	......	W. Wallace Brier.
XXII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI..	1832	4	39	2	4	57	...	...	2,290	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	John Leighton.
1. Saint Louis*...........	1831	...	10	...	1	9	...	...	611	...	...	......	.....	......	......	......	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri*...	1845	...	7	...	...	9	...	...	592	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	John Leighton.
3. Lexington*	1845	...	11	2	...	21	...	...	569	...	...	......	......	.....	......	......	Samuel J. M. Beebe.
4. Osage*	1845	...	11	...	3	18	...	...	518	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	George W. Harlan.
XXIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA	1788	4	37	6	7	50	...	...	4,249	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester*............	1794	...	10	3	5	19	...	...	1,161	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Henry Matthews.
2. District of Columbia*	1831	...	9	1	...	13	...	...	1,496	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	William McLain.
3. Hanover*	1838	...	9	2	2	8	...	...	773	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Isaac W. K. Handy.
4. Piedmont*..............	1857	...	9	...	...	10	...	...	819	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Bryce A. Martin.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	81	4	11	70	663	162	8,639	261	156	$233.28	$3,174.36	$3,874.87	$835.06	$3,623.50
2. Utica	1829	4	67	3	11	73	547	194	6,986	159	152	236.17	1,721.07	2,394.40	1,199.23	2,233.63
3. Geneva	1812	6	107	4	33	92	848	315	9,617	335	220	266.60	2,694.76	2,249.85	1,412.59	2,169.39
4. Onondaga	1855	4	83	22	25	69	705	221	7,823	295	200	322.75	2,862.41	3,415.72	2,765.54	2,406.80
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	41	1	10	51	197	72	4,001	69	59	77.85	1,139.06	1,280.85	451.83	629.07
6. Genesee	1821	6	124	8	13	104	1,002	411	13,121	408	300	392.52	5,293.80	4,249.44	2,563.86	6,455.90
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	231	41	92	156	2,265	961	25,743	670	1014	1199.00	30,146.50	29,874.32	43,720.29	9,617.66
8. Pennsylvania	1838	4	80	6	30	68	810	277	11,161	224	492	539.11	17,243.65	4,003.12	3,621.78	3,450.53
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	20	...	6	36	283	90	2,936	66	121	129.45	2,468.24	1,368.22	646.58	872.79
10. Michigan	1834	9	90	4	13	105	900	366	8,334	322	269	351.56	2,703.85	3,165.07	1,316.73	1,873.40
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	106	6	36	86	563	321	6,580	181	209	212.16	2,576 09	2,936.20	1,243.29	2,276.74
12. Ohio	1814	4	44	3	13	72	273	156	4,726	77	190	140.61	1,763.76	1,816.73	1,248.30	1,177.03
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	40	17	10	39	219	101	2,973	41	73	151.50	3,300.24	1,137.82	1,146.31	723.13
14. Indiana	1826	4	43	...	14	62	335	127	3,432	111	175	180.45	1,713.47	1,659.93	935.51	612.60
15. Wabash	1851	4	40	2	2	59	143	117	2,631	41	85	109.40	698.25	309.27	393.50	77.49
16. Illinois	1831	4	62	1	6	84	209	168	4,111	63	100	185.35	2,779.21	699.28	711.02	911.56
17. Peoria	1843	6	94	...	21	73	360	368	4,372	126	253	205.55	8,673.05	2,917.77	1,166.46	2,294.95
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	29	2	2	34	107	177	1,384	23	81	70.14	94.55	56.92	31.50	5.87
19. Iowa	1853	6	53	2	10	74	207	151	2,003	62	97	73.55	314.20	335.64	173.30	195.17
20. Minnesota	1858	3	19	...	1	15	43	46	500	9	16	27.15	42.36	51.00	125.00	60.00
21. Alta California	1857	3	15	...	...	13	26	31	373	7	46					
22. Missouri	1832	4	39	2	4	57	...	...	2,290							
23. Virginia	1788	4	37	6	7	50	...	...	4,249							
		108	1545	134	370	1542	10,705	4832	137,990	3550	4308	$5104.15	$91,402.88	$67,796.42	$65,707.68	$41,667.21

MINUTES, 1860.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 17th, 1860.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Third Presbyterian church of the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on Thursday, the 17th of May, 1860, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. 3 : 9: "Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building;" and Ephesians 4 : 16: "From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [222]

Thursday, May 17th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	Rufus R. Deming, John R. Young,	Abel Knapp.
2. *Troy,*	Jotham Sewall,	Stephen C. Dermott.
3. *Albany,*	Samuel T. Seelye,	Edward A. Durant.
4. *Columbia,*	William S. Leavitt,	John Gaul, Jr.
5. *Catskill,*	Elias L. Boing,	Edgar B. Day.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	Rufus Pratt (2),	William A. Eldridge.
2. *Watertown,*	Joseph A. Canfield,	David J. Wager.
3. *Oswego,*	Jeremiah Petrie,	
4. *Utica,*	Joseph N. McGiffert, Orlo Bartholomew,	Robert S. Williams.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva,*	William J. Jennings, Oliver P. Conklin,	Alfred Bolter, M. D., James M. Pow.
2. *Bath,*	Jeremiah Woodruff (2),	James H. Hotchkin.
3. *Chemung,*	Fordyce Harrington (2).	
4. *Ithaca,*	William Wisner, D. D.,	Joseph Esty.
5. *Pennsylvania,*	Joel Jewell,	Joseph Campbell.
6. *Lyons,*	William N. McHarg,	Dennis Clark.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Lewis H. Reid,	Amasa H. Jerome,
	Royal A. Avery,	Erwin E. Wells.
2. *Cayuga*,	Ezra A. Huntington, D. D.,	
	Simon S. Goss.	
3. *Cortland*,	Ova H. Seymour (4),	Jacob M. Schermerhorn.
4. *Tioga*,	Samuel F. Bacon.	[223]

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Samuel W. Bush,	Robert Russell.
2. *Chenango*,	Archibald McDougal,	John S. Morse.
3. *Delaware*,	Julius S. Pattengill,	Harvey Parsons.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	Thomas Farnham,
	Charles F. Mussey,	Samuel A. Brown.
2. *Ontario*,	Levi Parsons, Jr.,	Loren J. Ames, M. D.
3. *Rochester*,	Alfred North,	Oliver Spencer,
	Nathan Bosworth,	David Fancher.
4. *Genesee*,	Walter V. Couch,	Daniel N. Wells.
5. *Niagara*,	Alexander McColl,	John Wilson (6).
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Isaac G. Ogden.	

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	James W. Wood,	William S. Webb.
2. *North River*,	Jonathan Silliman,	Edward Wells.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Marcellus D. Loper.
4. *New York*, 3d,	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	Hiram B. Littell.
	Walter Clarke, D. D.,	
	Rollin A. Sawyer,	
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	John Spaulding,	John H. Bulen.
	Henry M. Field,	
6. *Brooklyn*,	Charles S. Robinson.	
7. *Newark*,	Jona. F. Stearns, D. D.,	James B. Pinneo,
	James M. Sherwood,	John Munn.
8. *Rockaway*,	Burtis C. Megie,	Jabez L. Allen.
9. *Montrose*,	James B. McCreary,	Benjamin S. Bently.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Heminway J. Gaylord,	Thomas B. Hopper.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3d,	Henry Darling,	P. Frazer Smith,
	J. Glentworth Butler,	Isaac Ashmead.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	John McLeod,	David Thomas.
	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing, D. D.,	Hon. Mordecai McKinney (2). [224]

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	William Grassie.	
2. *Meadville*,	Oliver N. Chapin,	Hon. Wm. W. Davison.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks,	Wm. C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit,*	Azariah Eldridge,	Hon. Pres. B. Thurston.
2. *Monroe,*	Robert R. Salter, D. D.	
3. *Marshall,*	Maltby Gelston,	Chester Armstrong.
4. *Washtenaw,*	Thomas Wright,	Thomas M. Ladd.
5. *Kalamazoo,*	William S. Huggins,	Luther H. Trask.
6. *Cold Water,*	William Fuller,	Hon. Levi Baxter.
7. *Saginaw,*	Alanson Scofield,	Frederick Bourns.
8. *Gr. River Valley,*	Courtney Smith,	Sarell Wood.
9. *Lake Superior,*	Cicero B. Stevens (4).	

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River,*	J. Mills Gillett,	Erastus Chester.
2. *Portage,*	George E. Pierce, D. D.,	Prof. C. A. Young (3).
3. *Huron,*	Ebenezer Bushnell,	Cortland L. Latimer (2).
4. *Trumbull,*	Isaac Winans,	William Laird.
5. *Cleveland,*	James Shaw, Daniel C. Blood (4),	D. F. Atwater, M. D. (2).
6. *Elyria,*	David A. Grosvenor.	
7. *Maumee,*	William W. Williams,	John R. Osborne.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens,*	Ebenezer B. Andrews.	
2. *Pataskala,*	Simon J. Humphrey,	Charles Wallace.
3. *Franklin,*	Edward D. Morris,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto,*	Joseph Chester,	Joseph Riggs (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati,*	D. Howe Allen, D. D., Clement E. Babb,	Alfred Beasley, M. D., Anthony H. Hinkle.
2. *Dayton,*	John Martin,	Hon. W. M. Wilson (5).
3. *Hamilton,*	John Hussey,	Guernsey Y. Roots. [225]

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem,*	John G. Atterbury,	Daniel Cortner.
2. *Madison,*	Henry Little,	Alexander Edgar.
3. *Indianapolis,*	Thornton A. Mills,	John O. Wishard.
4. *Green Castle,*	Joseph G. Wilson,	Henry F. Blount.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville,*	William N. Steele,	Thos. W. Fry, M. D. (3).
2. *St. Joseph,*	Jacob Patch.	
3. *Logansport,*	James A. Carnahan,	Henry M. Mann (3).
4. *Fort Wayne,*	Eleroy Curtis,	Samuel McClain.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois,*	John C. Downer,	Hiram B. Ellis.
2. *Schuyler,*	Edwin L. Hurd,	Clark B. Church.
3. *Wabash,*	Joseph Wilson (2),	William M. Allison.
4. *Alton,*	Cornelius H. Taylor,	Joshua G. Lamb.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Wellington W. Wells,	
2. *Knox*,	Harvey Curtis, D. D.,	William A. Wood.
3. *Galena*,	Josiah Leonard,	Thomas Wilson.
4. *Chicago*,	R. W. Patterson, D. D.,	Henry Smith (3),
	J. Ambrose Wight,	Ebenezer Jenkins (3).
5. *Belvidere*,	Henry B. Holmes,	Joseph C. Button.
6. *Bloomington*,	Alfred Eddy,	Luman P. Capen (3).

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Edmund F. Waldo,	Isaac N. Mason.
2. *Fox River*,	Charles F. Halsey,	Chauncey Bigelow (2).
3. *Columbus*,	William Lusk.	

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	John C. Ewing,	John G. Weeks, M. D.
2. *Iowa City*,	George E. W. Leonard,	William Stewart (2).
3. *Keokuk*,	Eras. J. Gillett, D. D. (2).	
4. *Dubuque*,	George E. Delevan (2),	John Maclay.
5. *Iowa Valley*,	James Gordon.	
6. *Kansas.*		
7. *Chariton.*		[226]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	T. S. Williamson, M. D. (2),	George C. Clapp (3).
2. *Minnesota*,	John Mattocks,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
3. *Winona.*		

XXI. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Sierra Nevada*,		Abel H. Wilder, M. D.
3. *San José*,	Samuel B. Bell,	Jas. R. McDonald (4).

XXII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis.*	Henry A. Nelson, M. D.	
2. *North'n Missouri*,	William W. Whipple,	James Porter.
3. *Lexington.*		
4. *Osage.*		

XXIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester.*
2. *District of Columbia.*
3. *Hanover*,
4. *Piedmont.*

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*,	Rev. Jas. N. Edmiston (11).
2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.*	
3. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*,	Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D. (5).

4.	*General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,*	Rev. William A. Passavant.
5.	*Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	
6.	*General Association of Massachusetts,*	Rev. Stephen G. Dodd (5).
7.	*General Association of Connecticut.*	
8.	*General Association of New Hampshire.*	
9.	*General Conference of Maine.*	
10.	*General Convention of Vermont,*	Rev. Jer. E. Rankin (2).
11.	*Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
12.	*Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.*	[227]

The Committee on Commissions reported, also, the attendance of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, Rev. John R. Young, from the Presbytery of Champlain, and Elder John H. Bulen, from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, without Commissions. Their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of Rev. William Wisner, D. D., Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., and Mr. Thomas Farnham.

The Committee presently reported, that they had obtained satisfactory information of the regular appointment of these Commissioners, and, on their recommendation, their names were added to the Roll.

The sudden decease of Benjamin R. Tuttle, a lay Commissioner from the Presbytery of Erie, on the very eve of his departure from home for the Assembly, was announced; and a record of the fact was ordered to be placed on the Minutes.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. William N. McHarg, of the Presbytery of Lyons, and Rev. Ebenezer Bushnell, of the Presbytery of Huron, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 M.; and from 2½ o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M., and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18*th*, 9 *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Mr. Joseph Riggs,	Elder,	of the Presbytery of	Scioto.	
" David F. Atwater,	Elder,	"	Cleveland.	
" Samuel McClain,	"	"	Fort Wayne.	
" Chauncey Bigelow,	"	"	Fox River.	
Rev. George E. Delevan,	Minister,	"	Dubuque.	
" Thos. S. Williamson, M. D.,	"	"	Dakota.	
" Joseph Wilson,	"	"	Wabash.	
" Rufus Pratt,	"	"	St. Lawrence.	
" Jeremiah Woodruff,	"	"	Bath.	
" Erastus J. Gillett, D. D.,	"	"	Keokuk.	[228]

Rev. Fordyce Harrington, Minister, of the Presbytery of Chemung.
Hon. Mordecai McKinney, Elder, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh.
Rev. Jeremiah E. Rankin, from the General Convention of Vermont.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The general Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Clerks.

Resolved, That a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and Mr. John Gaul, Jr., be appointed to inquire whether the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, now in session in Allegheny City, would be willing to unite with this body, in a meeting for prayer and praise, at some hour convenient to both bodies.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Thomas Brainerd, D. D., George E. Pierce, D. D., John C. Downer, Burtis C. Megie. *Elders*—John Gaul, Jr., Hon. Prescott B. Thurston, William M. Allison.
2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Conway P. Wing, D. D., Joseph G. Wilson, Erastus J. Gillett, D. D., Cornelius H. Taylor. *Elders*—P. Frazer Smith, Jabez L. Allen, Joseph Esty.
3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Harvey Curtis, D. D., James Shaw, Oliver P. Conklin, Epher Whitaker. *Elders*—Edward Wells, Clark B. Church, Hon. William W. Davison.
4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., Thomas S. Williamson, M. D., William S. Leavitt, Azariah Eldridge. *Elders*—Benjamin S. Bentley, Alfred Bolter, M. D., Anthony H. Hinkle.
5. *Church Extension. Ministers*—Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Henry Little, Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Samuel T. Seelye. *Elders*—James B. Pinneo, Isaac Ashmead, Sarell Wood.
6. *Education. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., James M. Sherwood, J. Glentworth Butler. *Elders*—John R. Osborne, Thomas M. Ladd, Joshua G. Lamb. [229]
7. *Publication. Ministers*—John G. Atterbury, Henry M. Field, J. Ambrose Wight, Courtney Smith. *Elders*—Edgar B. Day, Joseph Riggs, John H. Bulen.
8. *Narrative. Ministers*—William S. Huggins, Ebenezer B. Andrews, Samuel B. Bell, Edward D. Morris. *Elders*—Amasa H. Jerome, William S. Webb, John O. Wishard.
9. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Alanson Scofield, Julius S. Pattengill, Jonathan Silliman, George E. Delevan. *Elders*—James H. Hotchkin, James M. Pow, Chauncey Bigelow.
10. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Samuel M. Sparks, John Spaulding, John McLeod, Henry B. Holmes. *Elders*—William A. Wood, Chester Armstrong, John McElroy.
11. *Mileage. Elders*—Guernsey Y. Roots, John G. Weeks, M. D., Hiram B. Littell.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany. Ministers*—William W. Whipple, Edwin L. Hurd. *Elder*—Alexander Edgar.
2. *Utica. Ministers*—John Mattocks, William N. Steele. *Elder*—William Laird.

3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—William Lusk, Rollin A. Sawyer. *Elder*—Erastus Chester.

4. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Edmund F. Waldo, John Hussey. *Elder*—Stephen C. Dermott.

5. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—George E. W. Leonard, John Martin. *Elder*—Frederick Bourns.

6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—Thomas Wright, Jacob Patch. *Elder*—Thomas B. Hopper.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—Clement E. Babb, Joseph Chester. *Elder*—Daniel Cortner.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Eleroy Curtis, Royal A. Avery. *Elder*—David J. Wager.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—J. Mills Gillett, Jeremiah Petrie. *Elder*—William A. Eldridge.

10. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Alexander McColl, Samuel W. Bush. *Elder*—Abel Knapp. [230]

11. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Jeremiah Woodruff, Isaac G. Ogden. *Elder*—Edward A. Durant.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Orlo Bartholomew, Nathan Bosworth. *Elder*—John S. Morse.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—William W. Williams, William Grassie. *Elder*—Charles Wallace.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—James B. McCreary, Rufus R. Deming. *Elder*—Marcellus D. Loper.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—William Fuller, James W. Wood. *Elder*—Isaac N. Mason.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Alfred Eddy, William J. Jennings. *Elder*—John Maclay.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Maltby Gelston, Samuel F. Bacon. *Elder*—Abel H. Wilder, M. D.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Lewis H. Reid, Alfred North. *Elder*—James Porter.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Jotham Sewall, Elias L. Boing. *Elder*—Dennis Clark.

20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—David A. Grosvenor, Moses F. Mussey. *Elder*—Hon. Mordecai McKinney.

21. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Robert R. Salter, D. D., Isaac Winans. *Elder*—Henry F. Blount.

22. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—James A. Carnahan, Simon J. Humphrey. *Elder*—Joseph C. Button.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives, and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

The Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report, which, having been read, was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension was presented, and, having been read, was accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them. [231]

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries.

The Permanent Committee on Education presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication was presented, and, having been read, was accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. John R. Osborne and Edward A. Durant.

The Committee appointed to confer with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, with reference to a union meeting of prayer and praise, reported, recommending that such a meeting be held in this house to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock; and their report was adopted.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. James Shaw, Rev. William S. Leavitt, and Rev. Alfred Eddy, was appointed *to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The first Monday of January, 1861, was recommended as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; and the last Thursday of February as a concert of prayer for Colleges and other institutions of learning.

The First Presbyterian church of Syracuse, N. Y., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next Assembly. The sessions of the First Presbyterian and First Ward churches were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements.*

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Samuel T. Seelye, William W. Williams, J. Glentworth Butler, Clement E. Babb, and Levi Parsons, Jr.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

The Special Committee of Conference with the A. B. C. F. M., appointed by the last Assembly, presented their report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, to consider the subject of the demission of the ministry, presented their report, which was read, accepted and put upon the docket.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

Invitations were received from the board of managers of the Young Men's Christian Association, and from the directors of the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, tendering to the members of the Assembly the use of their libraries and reading-rooms, which were accepted with thanks.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [232]

Saturday, May 19th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remaining sessions of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Mr. William Stuart, Elder, of the Presbytery of Iowa City.
" Cortland L. Latimer, Elder, " Huron.

The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund presented their annual report, which was read, accepted and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The hour of 10 having arrived, the Assembly, according to previous arrangement, united for an hour and a half with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in a service of prayer and praise.

It was made the first order of the day for Wednesday afternoon, to receive the reports of the Committees to examine Synodical Records.

The adjustment and completion of the Roll was referred to the Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Mr. Ebenezer Jenkins, Elder, of the Presbytery of Chicago.
" Henry Smith, " " "
" Henry W. Mann, " " Logansport.
" Lumen P. Capen, " " Bloomington.
" Charles A. Young, " " Portage.
" Thomas W. Fry, M. D., " Crawfordsville.
" George C. Clapp, " " Dakota.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions reported the names of Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, principal; and Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, alternate; and their report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an application to the Assembly from members of the Presbyterian church of Mount Vernon, Indiana.

The prayer of the application was, that the General Assembly would give to that church "a release and quit claim" to certain property occupied by the church. [233]

The real estate in question was conveyed, in April, 1847, to certain "Trustees of the Presbyterian church of Mount Vernon, connected with the (New School) General Assembly, and to their associates and successors in office for ever."

In 1848, for reasons which have not been made very plain to the Committee, but which, be they what they may, could not influence the reply of the Assembly to the application, the church became connected with the (O. S.) Presbytery of Vincennes. From that time the real estate has been in the possession of the church, and occupied by them as a place of worship. They now desire to sell the property for the purpose of purchasing other property; but, as the Committee infer, they are unable to sell, because the original grant, having been made to a "New School" church, there is a cloud on the title, by which they at present hold the property.

The Committee are of opinion, that the determination of this matter is entirely with the civil courts of the State of Indiana; and, if action of the General Assembly in the premises would have any effect at all, it would rather complicate than relieve the embarrassment with which the applicants have surrounded themselves.

The Committee recommend the adoption by the Assembly of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Assembly the questions, arising under the application of the church of Mount Vernon, Indiana, are exclusively for the determination of the civil courts of that State; that it is, therefore, inexpedient for the Assembly to take any action in the premises; and that the applicants have leave to withdraw their application and accompanying papers.

The report was adopted.

Rev. Jeremiah E. Rankin, the Delegate of the General Convention of Vermont, addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial from the Presbytery of Alton, which memorial was read, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension, as pertaining more properly to their province.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Special Committee of the last Assembly, on the demission of the ministry. Pending the discussion of a motion to adopt the report, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Mr. James R. McDonald, Elder, of the Presbytery of San José. [234]
Mr. Jacob M. Schermerhorn, Elder, " Cortland.
Rev. Ova H. Seymour, Minister, " Cortland.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the sermon on Publication, appointed by the last Assembly, be preached in this house to-morrow, at 7½ o'clock P. M.; and the report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on the demission of the Ministry. After considerable discussion, the report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred, by the last General Assembly, an Overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, on the "Voluntary demission of the ministry," respectfully submit the following report:

The Constitution of our Church, it is well known, provides for the deposition of the unworthy, by due process of discipline; but seems not to have anticipated that any other class would require to be separated from the responsibilities of an office so high and so sacred. It nowhere contemplates the dismission of the members of the Church to the world, nor the return of the ministry, at their own instance, to the mere secularities of every-day life.

Such is the view that has been taken of our standards from the beginning. Neither the old Synod of New York and Philadelphia, nor any of our General Assemblies, has ventured to give any different interpretation. The Assembly of 1802, on the occasion of the exercise, by the Presbytery of Lewes, of the prerogative of divesting one of their ministers of his office, without deposition, suspension, or censure, passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That it is a principle of this Church, that no minister of the Gospel can be regularly divested of his office except by a course of discipline terminating in his deposition. That, if any minister, by providential circumstances, become incapable of exercising his ministerial functions, or is called to suspend them, or to exercise them only occasionally, he is still to be considered as possessing the ministerial character and privileges; and his brethren of the Presbytery are to inspect his conduct; and, while they treat him with due tenderness and sympathy, they are to be careful that he do not neglect his ministerial duties beyond what his circumstances render unavoidable."

The office is to be retained; but, for sufficient reason, the exercise of the office may be discontinued in whole or in part. Such was the judgment of the Synod of 1726, in the case of Mr. Robert Laing, who, by reason of the complaints of his "weakness and deficiency," brought against him, "rendering his exercise of the ministerial function a detriment to the interests of religion, and rather a scandal than a help to the Gospel," advised him to demit the whole exercise of the ministry, and not to take it up again but by the approbation of at least three ministers of the Presbytery wherein he may reside."

Similar was the judgment of the Synod of 1783, in the case of Mr. William Woodhull, who had represented to the Presbytery of New [235] York, of which he was a member, "his situation as being still incapable of exercising his ministry by his continued indisposition; and the little, or rather no, probability of his ever being able to attempt the exercise of it in future; and that he was at the same time engaged in certain secular employments that would seem to render it improper to have his name in their records as a member." The Synod judged "that Mr. Woodhull ought to be continued a member of the Presbytery of New York."

Two years afterwards, in the case of Mr. Joseph Montgomery of the Presbytery of New Castle, whose name had been dropped from the Roll of the Presbytery, at his own instance, on account of indisposition of body, and the acceptance of "an office under the civil authority," the Synod expressed their disapprobation of the measure, and recommended "to all Presbyteries, when any ministers under their inspection resign their charge or discontinue the exercise of their office while they remain in the same bounds, to pass a regular judgment on the reasons given for such conduct, and continue their inspection of those who shall not have deserved to be deprived of the ministerial character, though they may be laid aside from immediate usefulness."

Thus uniformly has the doctrine been maintained by the ecclesiastical authorities of our Church, "that no minister of the Gospel can be regularly divested of his office, except by a course of discipline terminating in his deposition." The Assembly of 1852 took the same ground, or, at least, refused to take ground to the contrary. In the case of a member of the Presbytery of Portage, "who, though chargeable with no disciplinable offense, had forsaken the ministry for ten or more years, had regularly and permanently engaged in secular employments, had become a private member of the church, and had no design of again acting as a minister of the Gospel, and who, on this ground, had requested his Presbytery to strike his name from the roll of members," the Presbytery took the position, "that presbyterial law contemplates the ministerial office as permanent, ceasing not but by death or deposition;" yet they referred the case to the wisdom of the

General Assembly. And the Assembly of 1852, although the Committee on the Polity of the Church recommended "that the Presbytery be directed to strike his name from the Roll, without implying any censure or any imputation upon his Christian character," refused to adopt the recommendation; thereby confirming the position taken by the Presbytery, and conforming their action to the uniform decisions of the highest ecclesiastical authorities of our Church from the beginning.

It is true that, in common with most of the evangelical denominations, we maintain that ordination is but a ceremony—on outward sign—a public recognition on the part of the ordainers of the fitness of him who is ordained for the office to which he is set apart. It does not impress a character or impart a fitness not previously possessed. But, in the case of a minister of the Gospel, it recognizes the fact that the man has consecrated himself to this high and holy calling; has, by irrevocable vows, set himself apart from merely secular pursuits, to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ in the ministry. From these [236] vows the Church has received no dispensation to release him; and, therefore, has ever disclaimed the power and right, even in the exercise of discipline.

So long, therefore, as it is in the power of the minister, he is to exercise his gifts and graces in this particular calling. He is under covenant, both to Christ and to the Church, thus to serve God. He may not, without breach of covenant, abandon, merely at his own instance, the ministerial for a secular calling. If the providence of God puts it out of his power, evidently and unmistakably, to pursue his ministerial work, it becomes his duty to bring his case before his brethren of the Presbytery, and submit it to their decision. If any minister neglects this obvious duty, and of his own accord devotes himself to secular pursuits, his Presbytery are to investigate the case, and pass judgment upon it. Such was the judgment of the General Assembly of 1834.

"When ministers have withdrawn," they say, "or may hereafter withdraw, wholly or in part, from the work of the ministry, it is enjoined upon the Presbyteries to which they belong, to require of such ministers their reasons for so doing; which reasons are to be put upon record by the Presbytery, with an expression of their approbation or disapprobation of the same."

In like manner, also, the Assembly of 1802, in order, very properly, to guard against the practical demission of the office, determined and directed, "that, if any minister of the Gospel, through a worldly spirit, a disrelish for the duties of his office, or any other criminal motive, becomes negligent or careless, he is by no means to be suffered to pursue this course, so as at length to be permitted to lay aside the ministry, without censure; because this would be to encourage a disregard of the most solemn obligations, by opening a way to escape from them with impunity. But, in all such cases, Presbyteries are seasonably to use the means and pursue the methods pointed out in the word of God and the rules of this Church. to recall their offending brother to a sense of duty; and, if all their endeavors be ineffectual, they are at length regularly to exclude or depose him from his office."

This rehearsal of the action of previous Assemblies, it is thought, is a sufficient answer to the Overture, without entering upon a discussion of the abstract question—"May an ecclesiastical body, in any case, demit from the office of the ministry without discipline or censure?" We simply refer to the usages of our own Church, and urge them upon the attention of our Presbyteries. They are not to allow any of their ministers to retire from the ministerial work, of their own accord; but to require, of such as are desirous to enter into a secular calling, their reasons for such a course, which they are to put upon record, approvingly or otherwise. The circumstances of the age call loudly upon this Assembly to re-affirm these long-established principles, and to enjoin upon the Presbyteries the utmost carefulness in preventing the secularization of our ministry.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [237]

Tuesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Rev. Cicero B. Stevens, Minister,	of	the	Presbytery of	Lake Superior
" Daniel C. Blood,	"	"	"	Cleveland.

The Committee appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported, that they had found the accounts correct, and recommended that the report be approved; and their report was adopted.

Reports were received from the Delegates, appointed by the last Assembly, to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. John W. Bailey, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; from the Rev. George A. Lyon, D. D., the Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States; from the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. Selden Haines, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from the Rev. Henry B. Holmes, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. John McLeod, the Delegate to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church and to the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, in Canada; from the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; from the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. George F. Wiswell, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from the Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Communications were received and read from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, and from the Synod of the Vaudois Church.

The Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, presented his credentials, and his name was added to the Roll.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was read, and ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

Adjourned until 2½ P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [238]

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the report of the Standing Committee on Publication.

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, and Rev. William A. Passavant, the Delegate of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper, in this house, on Thursday, at 7½ o'clock P. M., agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside, and read the Opening Hymn.
2. Reading the Scriptures and Prayer, by Rev. J. M. Sherwood.
3. Giving thanks and the administration of the Bread, by Rev. H. A. Nelson, D. D.
4. Administration of the Cup, by Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D.
5. Address, by Rev. William Wisner, D. D.
6. Hymn and Benediction, by the pastor of the church.

The following elders to distribute the elements: J. Ashmead, J. H. Bulen, J. R. Osborne, J. G. Weeks, M. D., G. Y. Roots, J. Gaul, Jr., S. Wood, W. A. Wood, T. Farnham, C. B. Church, J. Riggs, and J. O. Wishard.

It was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning, to hear the report of the Commission on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly.

The Special Committee of the last Assembly to confer with the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church presented their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A number of the members of the Third Presbyterian church invited the Assembly to spend an afternoon with them at Oakland. The invitation was accepted for next Saturday afternoon.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner and Delegate presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Hon William M. Wilson, Elder, of the Presbytery of Dayton.

Rev. Stephen G. Dodd, from the General Association of Massachusetts.

Rev. Stephen G. Dodd, the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, addressed the Assembly. [239]

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was accepted, and made the first order immediately after the conclusion of the unfinished business.

The Commission on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly, presented their report.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Commission on Home Missions, read this morning, was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee of fifteen*, consisting of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, and Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Thomas Brainerd, D. D., D. Howe Allen, D. D., and George E. Delevan, ministers; and Messrs. Thomas Farnham, Cortland L. Latimer, and Isaac N. Mason, elders.

The Commission on Home Missions presented the correspondence between them and the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society, which was read, and their part of it referred to the Standing Committee on Publication, to be printed for the use of the Assembly.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Geneva, Onondaga, Susquehanna, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Michigan, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Peoria, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, were presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written; and the reports were severally adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Ohio reported, and their report was adopted, recommending the approval of the Records as far as written, with the following exception:

1. That the answer to the question contained in paper No. 2, page 225, should be, "He is a member of the Presbytery until he is received by another body."

And with the further exception of the action on pages 226–7, relative to a *Presbyterial Quorum* and similar matters; in respect to which, this Assembly expresses no opinion, but refers the whole subject to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. John G. Atterbury, Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., and Mr. Edward Wells, to report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Minnesota reported, and their report was adopted, recommending that the Records be approved as far as written, with the following exceptions: (1.) On page 54, in the record of the session of Friday, Sept. 30th, 1859, no mention is made of the opening services. (2.) No mention is made of any report from the several Committees on Presbyterial Records, appointed by the Synod. [240]

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented a report in reference to the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, which was read, accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on the answers to the Formula as follows:

This General Assembly has under its care 106 Presbyteries, of which only 26 have expressed any opinion.

Four Presbyteries have expressed an approval of the Formula.

Nine Presbyteries have suggested amendments, expressing an approval of the Formula if amended.

And thirteen Presbyteries are opposed to adopting this Formula; some of them being opposed to any Formula.

The Committee report the facts, and recommend nothing; supposing that the Formula fails for want of sufficient approval.

The report was accepted, and the subject indefinitely postponed.

Also, on a request from the Presbytery of Kansas, asking that said Presbytery be transferred from the Synod of Iowa to the Synod of Missouri, as follows: Although some informality is found in the form of this application, yet, inasmuch as the present connection was constituted by the last Assembly without consulting the parties interested; inasmuch as the Synod of Iowa was then the nearest body with which they could be connected, which is not now the case; and inasmuch as the convenience and welfare of the Presbytery will be greatly promoted by the change; it being understood that the Presbytery unanimously desire it, and that the Synod of Iowa do not object to it; therefore the Committee recommend that the request be granted, and the Presbytery be accordingly transferred.

The report was adopted.

Also, on the adjustment of the Roll, as follows:

The Committee on Church Polity beg leave to report on the adjustment of the Roll:

Whereas, the Presbyteries of Winchester, Piedmont, and Hanover, constituent portions of the Synod of Virginia, have followed up their previous vote of withdrawal from the Assembly, by a positive connection with another ecclesiastical body; therefore, the Committee recommend, that the bounds of the Synod of Pennsylvania be so extended as to embrace the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia; that the Presbytery of the District of Columbia be transferred to the said Synod; and that the Synod of Virginia be stricken from the Roll.

The report was adopted.

Also, in reference to Statistical Reports.

The report was accepted and put upon the docket.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, and the report was adopted, recommending that the sermon on Home Missions by [241] Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., by appointment of the last Assembly, be preached in this house, on Friday evening.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly was addressed by Rev. George W. Wood, D. D., a deputation from the A. B. C. F. Missions.

The following additional Commissioner was reported, and his name was entered on the Roll:

Mr. John Wilson, Elder, of the Presbytery of Niagara.

The Mileage Committee reported as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully beg leave to report the following statements and recommendations:

1st. That 50 Presbyteries have complied with the regulations of the Assembly, and have paid their full assessments towards the expenses of the Assembly, at the rate of five cents for each communicant, in their respective Presbyteries, viz.:

Catskill, Pennsylvania, Cayuga, Buffalo, Rochester, Hudson, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Newark, Philadephia, 3d, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, Bloomington, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Iowa City, Keokuk, Dubuque, Iowa Valley, Minnesota, Sierra Nevada, San José, St. Louis, and Northern Missouri.

2d. That 29 Presbyteries have contributed to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of sixty cents or more for each of their ministers, viz.:

Albany, Columbia, Watertown, Utica, Geneva, Chemung, Lyons, Onondaga, Delaware, Ontario, Niagara, Genesee Valley, North River, Brooklyn, Rockaway, Montrose, Philadelphia, 4th, Wilmington, Meadville, Detroit, Marshall, Washtenaw, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Pataskala, St. Joseph, Logansport, and Milwaukee.

3d. That the Presbytery of Portage has contributed to the Contingent Fund the sum of one dollar.

4th. That the whole amount placed in the hands of your Committee is............................. $3364.57
That the whole amount of bills presented for Mileage and expenses is............................. 2538.35
Leaving a balance, after paying in full all the bills for mileage and expenses, of................. 826.22 [242]

Your Committee recommend, that the bills for mileage and necessary expenses as audited be paid in full, and that the balance of $826.22 be paid to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, to be applied to the Contingent Fund.

5th. That the following 23 Presbyteries have made no contribution whatever, viz.:

Champlain, Troy, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Bath, Ithaca, Cortland, Tioga, Otsego, Chenango, Genesee, Monroe, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Grand River, Elyria, Athens, Franklin and Alton, Chariton, San Francisco, Kansas, and District of Columbia.

6th. Your Committee would recommend that these Presbyteries, including the Presbytery of Portage, be requested to pay to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, for the Contingent Fund, sixty cents for each minister in their respective Presbyteries.

7th. That while your Committee are gratified in being able to recommend the payment, in full, of all bills presented to them, they would earnestly call your attention to the fact, that the payments as made are unequal, and frequently work as a hardship in some cases, on account of the failure of many able Presbyteries to meet their assessments.

The plan, however, adopted by the General Assembly, is highly satisfactory, and only requires a prompt compliance by all to meet all expenses; and they would recommend the Assembly, earnestly to enjoin it on all the Presbyteries to comply with the provisions of the plan in full.

8th. They would earnestly recommend a uniform assessment of five cents for each communicant, agreeable to the published Minutes of the Assembly, as being amply sufficient to defray the expenses of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly took up the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education. Pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an answer to the inquiry—“Ought the eldership to participate in the ordination of ministers by laying on of hands?” as follows:

It is a recognized principle in our Church polity, in accordance as we believe with apostolic teaching, that bishops, ministers, and elders constitute but one grade or rank of officers in the Christian Church; and hence, that in all our church judicatories they have equal rights and powers. In all the judicial business of the Church all are [243] presbyters alike. (See Form of Gov., Chap. IX., secs. 1, 2, 4; Chap. X., secs. 2 to 7; Chap. XI., secs. 1, 2; and Chap. XII., sec. 2.) Still it cannot be denied, that in the Bible a distinction is recognized between those presbyters who rule only, and those who both rule and preach. In the practice of the Presbyterian Church, in all its branches, this distinction has become very marked. Some are set apart expressly to preach the Gospel, and to administer the ordinances of God's house. They are presbyters in common with others; but, as ministers of Christ, they have functions and rights peculiar to themselves, and are required to possess peculiar qualifications. In the ordination of ministers, your Committee believe there are two distinct things to be done. 1st. The examination and approval of the candidate. In this all the members of the Presbytery participate alike; and 2d. The formal act of induction into office, in which, by almost universal consent, as we suppose, only ministers officiate. It is true, our Form of Government, Chap. XV., sec. 14, speaks of the whole Presbytery as laying on hands, and giving the right hand of fellowship. But every statute should be construed consistently with itself, and with general usage under the statute. Your Committee would suggest that the act of induction is ministerial, not judicial. And as, in respect to baptism, the elders jointly with the pastor determine who shall be admitted to this ordinance, yet the pastor only administers it; so in ordination, the whole Presbytery determine the fitness of the candidate, but only the ministers present induct into office. This, we believe, has been the universal practice under this rule; and that this usage was intended by the framers of the book, seems probable from the fact that, in the form of induction, those aiding in the service are directed to extend to the new minister their right hands, saying: "We give you the right hand of fellowship to take part of this ministry with us." This language manifestly implies, that those thus welcoming him do themselves occupy places in that ministry into which they welcome him. The Committee therefore recommend that the question be answered in the negative.

The report was adopted.

Also, on a memorial from certain members of a church in Bloomfield, N. J.; and the report was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education; but, before its conclusion,

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of the ordinance.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [244]

Friday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an answer to the following inquiry, "Is it forbidden by our standards to baptize adult converts upon a general confession of faith in Christ, previous to their being received into a particular church, and assenting to its articles of faith?" as follows:

A profession of faith in Christ, and obedience to him, is all that is required, in our standards, of those who are out of the visible Church in order to their being baptized. (See Con. of F., Chap. XXVIII., sec. 4; Lar. Cat., Question 166; Shorter Cat., Question 95.) Hence, cases may occur, in which, as in the case of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, it may be proper to baptize a person who does not expect immediately to connect himself with any particular church. But, inasmuch as it was the obvious intent of the Saviour that all his disciples should be associated in local churches, and inasmuch as we cannot obey one of his commandments—that requiring us to remember him at his table—without such connection, therefore, your Committee believe, that in no ordinary circumstances can a person give good evidence of a readiness to obey Christ in all things, who, having the opportunity, does not connect himself with some particular branch of the visible body of Christ. In the practice of our Church, and according to her standards, baptism is manifestly regarded as a part of the general profession of faith in, and obedience to, Christ, which constitute his initiation into the visible Church, and into some particular branch of it; and in no ordinary case ought the several parts of this solemn profession to be separated.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was read, accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that an Overture had been received from Rev. J. C. Adamson, D. D., of the 3d Presbytery of New York, now in South Africa, suggesting the appointment of a delegation from our branch of the Presbyterian family to the Convention, to be held in Edinburgh during the present year, to commemorate the establishment of the Protestant Reformation in Scotland three hundred years since.

The Committee recommended, and the Assembly adopted the recommendation, in compliance with this suggestion, that Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the 4th Presbytery of New York, Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., of the 3d Presbytery of Philadelphia, and Rev. Robert R. Booth, of the 3d Presbytery of New York, be appointed to attend the [245] convention alluded to, and to act as Delegates of this Assembly in its proceedings.

The Assembly took up the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education. After a full discussion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

The Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on the same subject, respectfully submit the following report:

The attention of the Assembly is called to the occasion of gratitude to the great Head of the Church, for the increasing interest which is felt in this cause throughout our Church, for the continued prosperity of our Theological Seminaries, and especially for the success which has attended the efforts to enlarge the endowments of Auburn and Lane Seminaries.

At the same time, we are called upon for more earnest prayer to the Lord of the harvest, in view of the fact, that the whole number of students in these institutions, and, so far as we can learn, the whole number of candidates for the ministry in any stage of their education, is scarcely at all in advance of that of the preceding year. The number entering the ministry of our Church, from year to year, is entirely inadequate to meet the demands for our own home-field—even if we should do nothing toward furnishing a supply for foreign lands. While as an Assembly we are endeavoring to awaken in all our churches a deeper interest both in foreign and domestic missions, it should not be forgotten, that that interest must necessarily be but transient, unless we have men to send abroad, who shall constitute our best and strongest bonds of union with far distant lands; and men to cultivate the new fields which may be opened, and occupy the new churches which may be formed, at home. All our attempts to enlarge our borders, and to gather new churches, by means of exploring missionaries, are greatly embarrassed, and many of them rendered comparatively useless, by the want of men to enter the fields as permanent laborers. This, so far as instrumental agency is concerned, is emphatically our great want. That this want may be rapidly supplied, let all Christians be exhorted to remember the command of the Master in their families and in their social circles—" Pray ye the Lord of the harvest," etc.

The labors of the Permanent Committee, through their Secretary, have done much to deepen the interest on this subject in the churches, Presbyteries, and Synods, and especially among the young men in the various institutions which he has visited. Your Committee are persuaded, that if the condition of this whole cause at this time could be compared with what it was four years ago when these labors commenced, the Assembly and the churches would feel, that the money necessary to sustain them could not have been better expended, and that these labors must on no account be discontinued. Their report has already informed you of the embarrassment under which they have labored, on account of the fact that the interest in the cause " has gathered itself around local centres," instead of around one common centre, so that what they have done cannot be embodied and made manifest to the Church at large. [246]

The most serious question which presses upon the minds of your Committee is, Can these causes of embarrassment and difficulty be removed—wholly or in part?

They believe that they can be removed, and that it is the sincere desire of all parts of the Church that they should be. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Permanent Committee continue their work as heretofore; and that they be instructed, at an early day, to revise the present plan of the Assembly, and submit the revised plan to the Presbyteries, with the earnest request that they express their views and wishes concerning it to the Permanent Committee previous to the meeting of the next Assembly; and that Rev. Albert Barnes, D. Howe Allen, D. D., Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., and Henry B. Smith, D. D., be appointed to confer with said Committee concerning the revision of the plan.

2. That this Assembly are gratified to learn that the Permanent Committee have begun to aid students from their own treasury; and that the churches be earnestly requested to replenish that treasury, that the work may go on in a manner worthy of the cause and of the Church at large.

3. That John J. Owen, D. D., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., J. W. Benedict, and W. W. Wickes, be elected members of the Permanent Committee, to serve three years; and that Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler be elected to serve two years, in the place of A. Augustus Wood, D. D., who has resigned his place in the Committee.

Friday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, which, after some discussion, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee of Publication respectfully report:

It is a matter of satisfaction to notice from year to year the indication of advance, slow but sure, in this important department of the Church's activity.

The Presbyterian Publication Committee, in their report, (which, with the Treasurer's account and vouchers, has been carefully considered by us,) furnish evidence that they have been faithful stewards of the very limited resources placed at their control.

They have added to their list of publications a number of tracts and volumes which promise to be useful; among which is the long-needed Tune Book, literally, as it is named, "Eclectic" of the melodies widely familiar in our congregations. This, with the admirable "Church Psalmist," will contribute to promote a uniformity in the service of song of our beloved Zion. These new publications, as their [247] report remarks, must "add moral as well as material strength" to the Publication cause.

The sales of the year furnish a grateful indication of the growth of this scheme. The amount, for a period of eleven months included in the report, exceeds $15,000; being an advance of 60 per cent. over that of last year, and of 200 per cent. over that of the year previous.

The donations, likewise, are represented under the respectable figure of $8095.81; though an abatement from the satisfaction of this item must be had, in view of the fact, that it is mainly the result of a special appeal to the churches of Philadelphia, which have before done so much for the cause; and consequently it does not express the interest felt by the body at large.

The present capital of the Publication Committee may, perhaps, be estimated as high as $15,000; which, considering the newness of the scheme, and the difficulties under which it has been prosecuted, is certainly honorable to the energy and management of the brethren who have had it in hand, if not particularly creditable to the liberality of the denomination at large.

But, while we recognize this advance, we must not ignore the fact, that the Publication enterprise is yet in its infancy and weakness, and needs the fostering help of the churches.

The Publication Committee, in discharging the trust laid upon them, painfully realize the need of resources greatly beyond what have yet been supplied them. Indeed, in order to sustain the scheme, to keep it alive by meeting the demands of its natural growth, the brethren who compose that Committee are compelled to lie under a heavy personal pecuniary responsibility, to which they ought not for one day to be subjected.

The only relief for this weakness and inconvenience is, the formation of a working capital in some measure proportioned to the aims of the General Assemblies, which have established and continued the Publication Committee. And, until individuals of wealth may be inclined adequately to endow this enterprise, we must look to the annual and continued collections from our churches, to raise it gradually to a position of ability, in which it may wield the power for good, that was contemplated in its organization.

This Committee therefore recommend,

1. That the Publication Committee be endowed with a working capital of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars;

2. That the General Assembly earnestly request all their churches to make a special contribution for this object in the month of October next; and

3. That the Publication Committee be authorized, in their discretion, to employ an agent for the furtherance of this design.

It appears from the report before us, that less than one-half the number of our churches have done anything for the Publication cause; a fact which plainly and painfully suggests the want of instruction on the relations of this cause to our denominational interests, as well as the promotion of sound doctrine and godliness among the people. The Committee would therefore recommend,

4. That the Assembly earnestly request the pastors to preach to their congre[248]gations on this subject in connection with the call for a contribution in October.

It is too late, at this day, to argue the importance of the Publication scheme to our organic interests as a denomination. The disadvantage at which we were placed by the want of a distinctive press, in the presence of other bodies fully armed with this great instrument of power, was the moving cause of the initiation of this scheme. But there is reason to think that our membership at large, and too many of our ministers and elders, are yet very imperfectly awake to our weakness in this regard, and the necessity of coming up, with quick and resolute step, into line with other ecclesiastical bodies, if we would honor our profession, and satisfy the claims of our Master.

The General Assembly last year ordered, that churches, making collections for the Publication cause, should be allowed to receive one-half the amount of their contributions in publications of the Committee. This provision it is thought desirable should be renewed, and brought to the attention of the churches.

The object of endowing the Publication Committee with the means of making books, is for the end that they may be circulated among the people. Hence the need that all, who understand the importance of this enterprise, should give their co-operation to this end. The Publication Committee have not the means to employ colporteurs and missionaries to carry their books and tracts abroad through the land. But pastors and elders may, without burdening themselves, and in the line of their official duties, do much to distribute them among the people. There are some of both pastors and elders, who are now, in this way, greatly subserving the aims of this enterprise.

The suggestion is an important one, that in Synods or Presbyteries, a small amount of capital might be invested in the Committee's publications, and these put into the hands of some suitable person in a central position, for sale. The receipts from sales being re-invested from time to time, a perpetual stock would be maintained. It is obviously impossible for the Committee, with their limited means, to establish dépôts at many points.

Among the papers put into our hands, are certain resolutions of the Synod of Michigan, expressive of their views on the proper policy of the Publication Committee in the preparation of a literature for our churches. We think these views are eminently just, and should be commended to the attention of that Committee, believing, indeed, that they but express the opinions of the brethren themselves in that Committee.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Hamilton desires the General Assembly "to instruct the Publication Committee to issue, if practicable, an edition of the 'Church Psalmist' in smaller type than the smallest size now published, in order to bring it within the reach of a greater number of people; and that the retail price be not more than thirty cents." This Committee believe, that the memorial expresses a widely-felt want for a low-priced edition of the 'Psalmist,' and recommend that the Publication Committee be instructed in accordance with the memorial. [249]

The term of office of the following members of the Publication Committee expires, during the sessions of this Assembly, viz.: Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Hon. William Strong; they recommend that these gentlemen be re-elected on the Committee for the term of three years.

They also recommend for preacher before the next General Assembly, the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., principal, and Rev. Samuel P. Seelye, alternate.

The sixth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House has been before the Committee. It records the removal by death of two of their number, namely, Charles S. Wurts and Rev. George Chandler, men of uncommon excellency of character, and active in the service of the Church.

The exhibition made by this Board of their trust is satisfactory, and demands the approval and thanks of the Assembly. The term of five of their number expires at this time, namely: John A. Brown, Matthew W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Rev. George Chandler. We nominate for election the first four, with Rev. Ennals E. Adams, for the term of two years; and of Charles S. Wurts, M. D., to fill the vacancy in the Board occasioned by the decease of his father, the late Charles S. Wurts, for the term of one year.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, on the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, also a memorial from the Presbytery of Iowa City, touching certain articles in the plan for the administration of the Fund, report as follows:

We find, in the report of the Trustees of the Fund, gratifying evidence that they have performed their duties faithfully and well during the past year, and that the practical working of the Plan, as to its essential features, is such as ought to be satisfactory to all our churches.

We recommend that the appropriations to the several Synods, for the ensuing year, be as follows:

Albany,	2	per cent.	Onondaga,	3	per cent.
Alta California,	3	"	Pennsylvania,	3	"
Cincinnati,	3	"	Peoria,	8	"
Genesee,	3	"	Susquehanna,	3	"
Geneva,	3	"			[250]
Illinois,	10	"	Tennessee,	.5	"
Indiana,	4	"	Utica,	2	"
Iowa,	6	"	Virginia,	1	"
Michigan,	8	"	Wabash,	3	"
Minnesota,	7	"	Western Reserve,	4	"
Mississippi,	.5	"	W. Pennsylvania,	3	"
Missouri,	5	"	W. Tennessee,	1	"
N. Y. and N. J.,	3	"	Wisconsin,	8	"
Ohio,	3	"			

A vacancy has been occasioned in the first class of the Board of Trustees, by the removal of Mr. Oliver H. Lee. The term of office of the third class of Trustees, consisting of Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Mr. Norman White, now expires. The Committee nominate Mr. Anthony P. Halsey to fill the place of Mr. Oliver H. Lee; and, to fill the vacancy in the third class of Trustees, Mr. William A. Booth, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., and Rev. James W. McLane, D. D.

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, took leave of the Assembly, and the Moderator responded in a brief address.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning to elect Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Commission on Home Missions, presented their report, which was accepted, and made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits on the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Mr. William A. Booth, were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years; and Mr. Anthony P. Halsey, in place of Mr. Oliver H. Lee, for two years.

The following were elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House: Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ennals J. Adams, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., for two years; and Charles S. Wurts, M. D., for one year, in the place of Mr. Charles S. Wurts, deceased.

The Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that the following Commissioners have been excused from attendance on the further sessions of the Assembly:

Rev. Messrs. James Wood, Wellington W. Wells, William Lusk, Walter Clarke, D. D., Charles S. Robinson, James M. Sherwood, [251] and E. J. Gillett, D. D. Messrs. Thos. Farnham, Robert S. Williams, Hon. Levi Baxter, Cortland L. Latimer, John McElroy, Alfred Beasley, M. D., Guernsey Y. Roots, Daniel Cortner, Daniel W. Ingersoll, Abel H. Wilder, M. D., James Porter, Charles Wallace, James H. Hotchkin, Abel Knapp, Stephen C. Dermott, William A. Eldridge, Benjamin S. Bently, Hon. Mordecai McKinney, and Frederick Bourns.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions; but, before its conclusion,

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on an Overture from Alfred Beasley, M. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, inquiring whether a respect for the action of former Assemblies does not demand, from our Southern Presbyteries, some explanation of the condition of the churches under their care, in relation to Slavery, as follows:

Your Committee have not been supplied with any information, which brings before us, in a manner authorized by our Book of Discipline, relations, practices, or delinquencies in relation to Slavery, which demand or render desirable any action of the Assembly on that subject at the present meeting.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture, requesting the Assembly to consider the propriety of appointing an official reporter of its proceedings.

The Committee recommended, that the paper be referred to the Committee of Arrangements for the next General Assembly, with instructions that, if they find such an arrangement practicable, it may be effected.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed, and continued until the time of adjournment, the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [252]

Monday, May 28th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows: To the

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. William W. Whipple, principal; and Rev. Joseph Wilson, alternate.

2. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Henry M. Field, principal; and Rev. John Spaulding, alternate.

3. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. George Duffield, Jr., principal; Elder P. Frazer Smith, alternate.

4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., principal; and Rev. Elias J. Richards, alternate.

5. *General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., principal; and Rev. Eber M. Rollo, alternate.

6. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Thornton A. Mills, principal; and Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., alternate.

7. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Henry Little, principal; and Rev. Simon S. Goss, alternate.

8. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., principal; and Rev. Royal A. Avery, alternate.

9. *General Conference of Maine*—Rev. George A. Howard, principal; and Rev. Jotham Sewall, alternate.

10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Addison K. Strong, principal; and Rev. Arthur Swazey, alternate.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Wabash and Alta California reported, that the records are not in the house, and were discharged.

The report of the Special Committee on Home Missions, after further discussion, and prayer for divine guidance, was adopted without dissent, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the general subject of Home Missions, together with the report of the Commission, appointed by the General Assembly at Wilmington, to make investigation respecting the same, submit, and recommend for adoption, the following paper:

1. We regard the statements and representations made in the report of the Commission, as essentially correct and just. And we believe that this lucid and faithful exposition of facts and principles, if brought before our churches and the public at large, would remove [253] many misapprehensions, and do an important service to the cause of truth. It is therefore ordered, that at least 5000 copies of the report be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, for general circulation.

2. We deeply regret, that our relations to the American Home Missionary Society seem to grow more and more complicated and embarrassing. We see no prospect of any such effectual removal of the difficulties, which have sprung up between that Society and our Church, as will fully re-establish the harmonious and beneficent co-operation in the Home Missionary work, which was so happily maintained in former years. All endeavors to effect a satisfactory adjustment of the matters of difference between us and the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society have proved fruitless. And the position, which has been assumed in relation to our Church Extension operations, and the action of the General Assembly, by the leading Congregational Associations with which we are in correspondence, indicates a deep and settled feeling on their part, which appears to foretoken a speedy dissolution of the copartnership in Home Missions, unless we shall consent to abandon a great work which we believe Divine Providence has set before us, and shall retrace steps which we have taken under a most solemn conviction of our duty to God and to his Church.

3. It is with us no longer an open question, whether we should continue to prosecute our Church Extension work, so as to supply any lack of service that may exist on our field, according to our own judgment and ability. In maintaining this position, we are guilty of no breach of good faith towards the American Home Missionary Society. For we have never expressly, nor by remote implication, bound ourselves to make that Society the exclusive agency of our Church in the Home Missionary work.

In pursuing our Church Extension work, we feel that we are only discharging an imperative duty which the Great Head of the Church has laid upon us. The necessity for this work is becoming increasingly urgent, in consequence of new circumstances over which we have no control; and we must go forward, and not backward, in the prosecution of it.

4. While we deem it incumbent on our Church to maintain firmly the principles and policy regarding this subject, which have been heretofore adopted and acted upon by the General Assembly, we earnestly desire to effect a good understanding with our Congregational brethren. We have no disposition to take any advantage of them in our co-operation with them; nor do we assert any right or liberty for ourselves which we do not freely accord to them.

We have earnestly desired continued co-operation with our brethren in the work of Home Missions, provided it could be carried forward in consistency with the proper liberty of our churches, Presbyteries, and higher judicatories, and in fraternal confidence. But, if a separation must take place, we trust that it may be effected in Christian love, and solely with a view to the greater peace and efficiency of both denominations. [254]

And, that we may do all in our power to secure a wise and Christian adjustment of the difficulties by which we are encompassed, in relation to this subject, the General Assembly hereby appoint a *Committee of ten*, to meet, in a fraternal conference, a Committee of Congregational brethren, (should such a Committee be appointed,) consisting of two members from each of the Congregational bodies with which this General Assembly is in correspondence, namely: the General Association of Connecticut, the General Association of Massachusetts, the General Convention of Vermont, the General Association of New Hampshire, and the General Conference of Maine. To carry into effect this arrangement, the Committee of Conference are hereby instructed to address a communication to each of the bodies already named, inviting them to appoint a like Committee to meet with the Committee of this General Assembly.

5. It shall be the duty of the Committee of the Assembly, herein provided for, to use their utmost endeavors to secure such an understanding between us and our Congregational brethren in regard to our co-operation with them in the work of Home Missions, as may conduct to an equitable and final settlement of this whole question.

It shall also be the duty of this Committee to make a full report to the next General Assembly, and to recommend to that body such plans and measures pertaining to the Home Missionary work as they may deem wise and necessary.

6. We would lay no restrictions whatever on our Presbyteries, or churches, as to the exercise of their liberty, in choosing for themselves, through what agency they shall bestow their contributions for the promotion of the Domestic Missionary work. But we would earnestly urge them, to do all in their power for the furtherance of this great cause, either through the A. H. M. Society, or the Church Extension Committee, or both, or through some other agency. And to suffer no feeling of suspense, as to the channels through which they are to send forth the waters of life, to dry up the fountains of their Christian beneficence.

Resolved, That four of the Committee of Conference appointed by the above report, be a quorum; and that they be authorized to fill their own vacancies.

Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, Rev. William N. McHarg, Rev. Clement E. Babb, and Rev. John Spaulding, were appointed a *Committee to nominate* the Committee of Conference.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, together with certain memorials on the subject of Home Missions, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Church Extension Committee; also certain memorials, from several Presbyteries and one Synod, on the subject of Home Missions, submit the following report:

The report of the Permanent Committee affords encouraging proofs [255] of progress in the work of Church Extension. This work is steadily growing on the hands of the Committee, and is carried forward by them with wisdom and efficiency. An increase of about fifty per cent. in the receipts of the Committee within the past year shows, that this cause is taking a deep hold on the hearts of our people. The importance of the exploring agencies that are employed by the Committee can hardly be overestimated. New and wide fields are opening, that must not be neglected by our Church. The number of our feeble churches, that can receive aid only from this Church Extension Committee, is, from special causes, rapidly increasing. These churches must not be suffered to die, or be driven to other denominations for support, as the condition of their continued existence. The present condition of our Home Missionary affairs multiplies, and will multiply, the demands for the efficient prosecution of our Church Extension enterprise. The coming year will be one of great importance in the history of this work.

A large increase upon the present receipts of the Committee will be urgently needed.

In view of the whole case, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the report of the Church Extension Committee be approved, and that the Committee are hereby instructed to prosecute their work with all the energy that they can command.

2. That we urge our feeble churches, that make application to the Committee for aid, to use their utmost endeavors to help themselves, and to ask the Committee for the smallest amount with which they can adequately support their minister.

3. That we request all the churches in our connection, that are not aided by the American Home Missionary Society, to take up collections at an early day for the Church Extension cause.

The term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee now expires, viz., Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Hon. Joseph Allison, Mr. Samuel Whilldin, Mr. Lawrence Peterson, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D. We would recommend, to fill the vacancies thus occurring, the names of Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Mr. Alexander Whilldin, Mr. Lawrence Peterson, Hon. Joseph Allison, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D.

The memorials referred to the Committee are from the Synod of Ohio and the Presbyteries of Athens, Franklin, Hamilton, Watertown, Detroit, Alton, and Dakota. All of these memorials, except that from the Presbytery of Alton, express a desire that the co-operation between us and our Congregational brethren in the work of Home Missions may be continued; while, with a single exception, they recognize our Church Extension work as proper and necessary. The Presbytery of Alton ask, that the Assembly at once take charge of the entire Home Missionary work, in case it shall be deemed advisable to dissolve our relations with the A. H. M. Society. These memorials were laid before the Special Committee on Home Missions, and were duly considered by them in framing their report.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing [256] Committee on Foreign Missions. Before concluding its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report, and recommend its adoption by the General Assembly as its utterance at the present time, on this most important subject:

The command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," is not surpassed for distinctness and impressiveness by any saying of our Lord Jesus Christ. No one, that pretends to love the Master, can be indifferent to this direction. Nor does it pertain alone to individual believers. It embraces every church in its organic character. Every denomination of Christians must see to it that its name is identified with the cause of Foreign Missions. It would be fatal to the hope of any professed disciple of the Son of God, to have no sympathy with the suffering Redeemer in his desire to save a perishing world. It is disgraceful to any company of believers not to recognize, somewhere in their system, the obligation resting upon them to take part, at whatever cost and sacrifice, in the conquest of the world to the dominion of the Cross. It may not be necessary that there should be as many distinct organizations, for sending out and sustaining missionaries upon the foreign field, as there are separate denominations; but if, upon careful investigation, it be thought that in this way the strength and efficiency of any portion of the people of God can thus be more completely developed, then no considerations of a worldly policy should be allowed, for a moment, to hinder the formation of a new missionary society. We are not called upon to convert the heathen, but we are bound as individuals, as churches, and as a distinct branch of the Church of Jesus Christ, to do all in our power to preach the Gospel to every creature. We are debtors, made so by the command of Jesus, "both to the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise;" so, as much as in us is, we must be ready to preach the Gospel, not only to them that are at Rome, but to the crowded population of China and India, to the scattered inhabitants of Polynesia, and to the roving hordes in our own wilderness.

The practical question at present is, whether, as a denomination, we [257] can continue to work with the American Board, or whether the time has come to initiate a system, under which we can more rapidly and fully develop the strength and spirit of our people.

The General Assembly finds an answer to this question in the report of its Permanent Committee, just presented, and that of the Committee of Conference with the American Board; which reports are to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes, after so much of the first report as relates to the Presbyterial character of the churches of the Ahmednuggur Mission be modified, as the Permanent Committee now desire, to correspond to the facts in the case; and, after the paragraph be stricken out, relating to the communication of a missionary to a Presbytery, and the memorial of the Presbytery to the Assembly.

The attention of the churches is called to certain particulars in this elaborate and excellent report of the Permanent Committee:

First. The urging upon Presbyteries of the importance of securing a more perfect system, in respect to contributions for missionary purposes, and especially the necessity of reporting such collections, not in a spirit of boasting, but in order that full and correct statistics of our benevolent operations may be secured.

Second. The correspondence from the Dacotah, the Madura, and the African missions is worthy of notice, from the excellence of these communications and the important information which they convey; but more especially as constituting the beginning of an interchange of letters between the General Assembly and its absent and distant members, who are preaching the Gospel among the heathen.

Third. That portion of the report which is in reply to the memorial for the establishment of missions in Mexico, and Central or Southern America, may be accepted as the proper reply to the resolution of the Presbytery of Detroit, and a memorial signed by George Duffield and H. Kendall, submitted to the Standing Committee; as it argues at length the impracticability of attempting to establish separate and independent missions at the present time.

It is only necessary to say, in respect to the report of the Special Committee of Conference with the American Board, that everything sought by our Committee, or desired by the General Assembly, was cordially assented to; and we rely upon the good faith of the Prudential Committee to carry out their own declaration, "that both 'reason' and 'charity' demand the facilitation of such organizations," (that is, Foreign Presbyteries,) "whenever circumstances and a due regard to the great objects of this Board will allow;" and, in view of the offer of the Prudential Committee, it is resolved, that the General Assembly will gladly welcome the annual delegation sent to confer with them by the American Board.

The Assembly wish to be understood, as expressing their undiminished confidence in the noble institution, with which they have been so long associated in the work of evangelizing the world, and their desire still to co-operate with their brethren of another denomination in spreading the news of salvation to the ends of the earth. Especially on this "jubilee year," would the Assembly enjoin upon all its churches to lend most liberal aid, in furthering a result so desirable as that [258] which is sought, viz., to bring the Board to its next anniversary free from debt, and prepared to begin, with increased ardor and energy, its second half-century in the glorious work of bringing all mankind into subjection to Jesus Christ.

The term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee expires with this Assembly, viz., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John A. Brown.

It is respectfully recommended, as Rev. Albert Barnes declines a re-election, and Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., has removed to Massachusetts, that the vacancies be filled by the re-election of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John A. Brown, with the addition of the names of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., and Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the resolution, proposing that the General Assembly should instruct the Church Extension Committee to offer no assistance to any church that has in its communion one or more slaveholders, reported as follows:

1. The Permanent Committee on Church Extension is appointed to act for the whole Church, being an organ of the General Assembly, which represents the whole Church, and we can see no defensible principle on which such a Committee could make discriminations, on moral grounds, between churches that are recognized as having the same ecclesiastical standing under our common Constitution.

2. The position of our Church is well understood to be one of opposition to the spirit and the system of Slavery; and we have no reason to believe, that any churches connected with us are using their influence to sustain and fortify that institution.

3. If it be true, that any members of churches in our connection hold slaves under mistaken views of their duty towards them, we do not see that this affords any sufficient reason for withholding from them the Bread of Life, and such enlightened teachings, as we believe our ministry are qualified and disposed to impart, in relation to all the great principles of Christian duty. We sympathize with all Christian endeavors to remove imperfection and sin from the Church of Christ; but we think this end is to be accomplished, not by withdrawing the Gospel from those who need it, but by affectionate and prayerful efforts, to apply the principles of our holy religion to the heart and conscience of every Christian, who is willing to receive instruction.

4. The Church Extension Committee are fully aware of the ground which our Church occupies with reference to this subject, and we have confidence that they will conscientiously discharge their duty, with an enlightened

regard to the promotion of righteousness and holiness in the Church and in the world.

The report was adopted. [259]

Against the adoption of this report, Mr. William N. Allison and Rev. Simon S. Goss entered their dissent.

The following protest, also, against this action was ordered to be entered upon the Minutes:

The undersigned members of the Assembly desire to enter on the Minutes their solemn protest against the action of the same, in adopting the resolutions of the Committee on Church Extension, adverse to the resolution to instruct the Church Extension Committee to extend no aid to any church which has among its communicants one or more slaveholders, and to enjoin on the evangelists, whom they may employ, to receive no person known to be a slaveholder to the communion of any of the churches which they may form, which resolution had been referred to said Committee; for the following reasons:

1. Because said resolutions do really, though, we suppose, unintentionally, misrepresent the said resolution in insinuating that said resolution forbids the preaching of the Gospel to slaveholders; while it only forbids those, who are sustained by the contributions of our churches for the extension of Christ's kingdom, from receiving slaveholders to the communion of the Church.

2. Because said resolutions imply that we have no constitutional power to interfere, in any way, with the admission of slaveholders into the Church, though previous Assemblies have declared that the holding of our fellow-beings in the condition of Slavery is an offense, in the proper sense of the term, as used in the Book of Discipline; and we believe it to be a crime of the first magnitude; not less than adultery.

3. Because the action of the Assembly, in adopting these resolutions, is contrary to that of the Assembly of 1818, which declares that "it is manifestly the duty of all Christians, who enjoy the light of the present day, to use their honest, earnest, and unwearied endeavors, as speedily as possible, to efface this blot on our holy religion, and obtain the complete abolition of Slavery throughout Christendom;" which declaration has been repeatedly re-affirmed by subsequent Assemblies, while we, by refusing to express any disapprobation of receiving slaveholders to the Lord's table, do, in effect, express our approbation of so doing, and thus rivet the fetters of the slave.

George E. Clapp,
Thomas S. Williamson,
James Gordon.

A communication was received from Rev. George Shepard, D. D., the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 29, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [260]

The Committee, appointed to nominate the *Committee of Conference* with a similar Committee to be appointed by the General Associations of New England, made the following nominations: Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Thornton A.

Mills, Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Seelye, Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., and Walter S. Griffith.

In regard to the distribution of the five thousand copies of the report of the Commission, the Committee recommend, that the Stated Clerk be instructed to place one thousand copies at the disposal of the Committee of Conference, and to send the remainder to the Stated Clerks of the several Presbyteries, dividing them in proportion to the number of communicants in each Presbytery.

The report was adopted.

Rev. James N. Edmiston appeared as a Delegate from the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; his name was entered upon the Roll, and he addressed the Assembly.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes. Pastors, stated supplies, and the sessions of vacant churches, were also requested to read it, at some convenient season, to their congregations.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, on the request from the Presbytery of Chicago, asking the General Assembly to take measures to secure more accuracy and completeness in the reports of our Presbyteries to the Assembly.

After discussion, the subject was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the Overture—When a church shall dismiss its ruling elders, and deny to its members the right of appeal and complaint, and deny the authority of Presbytery over it, has it a right to be represented in the judicatories of our Church?—reported as follows:

Our Church is organized on constitutional principles, with powers and duties appropriate to each branch or part thereof; and, with a gradation of subordinate and superior judicatories, designed to preserve unity of doctrine, and orderly discipline, according to the Scriptures.

This Constitution does not recognize a right of revolution, and makes no provision therefor; but treats all such cases simply as breaches of order, and visits them with appropriate constitutional remedies. Any individual church is represented in the church judicatories constitutionally, only by the pastor or an elder, one or both; and it can find admission into such judicatories only through such a mode of representation.

The Overture supposes three cases: 1st, a dismissal of elders; 2d, a denial of the right of appeal and complaint; and 3d, a denial of the authority of the Presbytery. [261]

Each of these is an unconstitutional act, is utterly null and void, and subjects the offending church to visitation and discipline at the hands of the Presbytery. The Form of Gov., Ch. X., sec. 8, empowers the Presbytery "to visit particular churches, for the purpose of inquiring into their state, and redressing the evils that may have arisen in them; to unite or divide congregations, at the request of the people; or to form or receive new congregations; and, in general, to order whatever pertains to the spiritual welfare of the churches under their care."

The above-named acts of insubordination, being void, work no effect; the session have still the right, and it is their duty, to send one of the elders to the Presbytery and the Synod; and his votes and acts in these bodies are the votes and the acts of the church. So, too, the Presbytery may send any one of such elders to the General Assembly; and should such church refuse obedience to the acts of the judicatories so constituted, it would be subject to the discipline, in due form, of our ecclesiastical law. Such church has a right to be represented by elders, and it cannot pass by them and substitute a private member as its representative. A void act of deposition, or dismission of its elders, does not incapacitate the church. In sending one of its dismissed elders to the Presbytery or the Synod, it disaffirms its illegal act; and that is an end of it; and if it should send a Delegate, not an elder, he could not be received; and the church would simply be unrepresented, (except by the pastor,) *pro hâc vice;* but the church is still under the care of the Presbytery, and subject to its government. The bond of union, which was formed by mutual and concurrent consent and act, cannot be dissolved by an *ex parte* act of insubordination or revolution, until the other party has acted thereon. The Committee, therefore, recommend the following answer to the Overture:

Resolved, That the acts of insubordination, specified in the Overture, do not, of themselves, infer a forfeiture of the church's right to be represented in the church judicatories; but such representation must be in the mode, and by the persons, specified in the Constitution of the Church.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, on a memorial from certain members of the church in Bloomfield, N. J., inquiring as to the rights of female and minor members of the church to vote in elections for church officers, was indefinitely postponed.

A similar disposition was made of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, previously accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions, appointed by the last Assembly, were continued for the present year, with the exception of Mr. Robert M. Hartley, in the place of Mr. Norman White.

Mr. Christopher R. Robert, Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. John C. Hines were appointed auditors of the Church Erection Fund.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture from W. F. Stuart, Samuel Polkey, Robert Barry, Joseph H. Leonard, [262] and Parker Earle, representatives of different Temperance organizations in Illinois, praying that this General Assembly would "give the Temperance cause a proper prominence among the means of reform sustained by the Church;" and especially suggesting, that it would "arrange or recommend that some proper Temperance movement should sustain the same relation to the churches, as the Tract, the Bible, and the Missionary causes do, both morally and financially, it would be of immense advantage to the cause."

The Committee report, that this Overture did not come into their possession until near the close of the sessions of the Assembly, affording but little time for such action as the importance of the subject demands. In compliance with the request of the petitioners, the Assembly are willing to assign to the cause of Temperance a relation to our Church not dissimilar to that which has been given to the benevolent objects with which it is compared. But with none of these do we maintain any other connection, than that which their own moral power secures upon the free affection and esteem of our members. Very cheerfully and earnestly would this Assembly commend the cause of Temperance to all the ministers and members of our Church, and urge them heartily to co-operate with every judicious effort in a Christian spirit to promote it; that pastors frequently preach upon the subject, and especially that no countenance be given to those social usages, by which great temptations to intemperance are thrown before their fellow-men.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that the following Commissioners had been excused from further attendance on the sessions of the Assembly:

Rev. Messrs. Joseph Chester, George E. W. Leonard, Isaac G. Ogden, John Mattocks, William S. Leavitt, James A. Carnahan, Fordyce Harrington, John R. Young, Rufus R. Deming, David A. Grosvenor, Ova H. Seymour, Clement E. Babb, George E. Pierce, D. D., William Fuller, Lewis H. Reid, Cornelius H. Taylor, Julius S. Pattengill, William Wisner, D. D., and Henry M. Field. Messrs. Edward A. Durant, John Gaul, Jr., John Maclay, Luther H. Trask, Edgar B. Day, William A. Woods, Thomas B. Hopper, Hon. William W. Davison, Jacob M. Schermerhorn, Anthony H. Hinkle, John O. Wishard, Joseph Esty, James R. McDonald, John R. Osborne, and Loren J. Ames, M. D.

The Standing Committees severally reported, that they had no further business before them.

The janitor's bill, the bills for printing and stationery, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Canada, Wisconsin, and the German Reformed Synod, with the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the Minutes of this Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk. [263]

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the great good already accomplished by the Society for Promoting Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, in sustaining and encouraging valuable institutions in times of commercial embarrassment, until they could be placed on permanent foundations, is entitled to the grateful acknowledgment of this Assembly; while its unfinished work is worthy of the hearty sympathy and generous aid of all the friends of sound learning and enlightened piety; especially in regard to completing the endowment of the institutions now under its patronage.

Resolved, That the efforts of our brethren on the Pacific coast, to establish the institutions of education and religion among them, and especially to endow the Colleges of California and Oregon, are worthy of the confidence and patronage of our churches.

The following resolutions of thanks were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the respective railroad companies, who have generously consented to a reduction of their regular fare, in favor of the Commissioners and others, who have been in attendance on our sessions.

Also, to the citizens of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City, and the neighboring villages, whose large-hearted hospitality has been so munificently extended to the members of the Assembly, and rendered their sojourn so pleasant and so gratefully memorable, with the assurance of our fervent prayers, that they and theirs may be abundantly "recompensed by the Giver of all good."

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements for their promptness and assiduity, in providing for the convenience and comfort of their numerous visitors on this occasion.

Also, to the Trustees of the Third Presbyterian church, for the use of their commodious house of worship, and its ample accommodations.

Also, to the Moderator, the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly; and for the discriminating and Christian courtesy which he has extended to the Commissioners.

Also, that the Assembly happily appreciate the admirable taste and luxurious comity of the entertainment given them by the ladies, on the beautiful grounds of Mr. Leslie, at his villa, in Oakland, to whom we are indebted for one of the most delightful excursions and social gatherings that we have ever enjoyed.

Also, that the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association for their generous and valuable tender of the use of their library and reading-rooms.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with, in consequence of the loss of a portion of the report of the Committee on Leave of Absence. [264]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the First Presbyterian church, of the city of Syracuse, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, 1861, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 29th, 1860.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1860.

THE Narrative of the State of Religion, within the bounds of whatsoever ecclesiastical body, is an answer, so far it goes, to Zion's question: "Watchman, what of the night?" When it is "the return of the year" that suggests this question, and when the answer is to cover so vast a field as is represented by this Assembly, this answer becomes one of peculiar interest, and we await it with great anxiety, aware that we ourselves, in part, are responsible for it, whatever it may be.

How has the battle gone during these twelve eventful months, amid the multiplied opportunities and instrumentalities of this past year, in this portion of the field and in that; at the East, in the great Northwest, on the vast intervening field of the Middle States, on the Pacific shore? "Watchman, what of the night?" We ought to have an answer to this great inquiry from every portion of our field; but we regret to say that many of the Presbyteries, as in previous years, are silent. While the number of reports is somewhat larger than it was last year—a fact which your Committee are glad to be able to report, the number being then sixty-five, and this year seventy-one—they yet feel called upon to suggest, that every Presbytery ought to remember, that the General Assembly is very desirous to ascertain, from year to year, what each Presbytery within its bounds has been doing, what its experience has been, what its present wants are, and what are its prospects. And they would suggest, further, that every Presbytery ought to be equally desirous of coming into closer sympathy and fellowship with the other portions of the Church, by putting the Assembly in possession of these facts.

It is a marked feature in the reports which have come to us, that they very generally, at the outset, contrast the condition of the churches with that which was reported one and two years ago. Or, perhaps, it should be said, that what they indicate is a difference, rather than a contrast. Although nearly all of them mention the absence of those special manifestations of revival, which were so generally prevalent one and two years ago, yet, in a large majority of cases, there are still thanksgiving and praise, for the gracious influences of the spirit which have continued to pervade the churches, and for the many signs of encouragement which are seen.

Revivals.

Nearly every Presbytery reports one or more revivals, which, though not so marked in their features, nor so large in their results, as those of two years ago, have still greatly cheered and strengthened the churches. Even where no special outpouring of the Spirit has been enjoyed, the condition of the churches, in most cases, is not that state of apathy and declension which is too often the result of reaction after a season of revival. While the exclamation is seldom heard, which was so common a year ago, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad," there are many indications that our ministers and churches generally are awake and in earnest, laboring with a good degree of fidelity, and watching and praying and waiting in hope.

Growth and Development.

The present state of things among the churches seems to be quite generally regarded by them, not only in theory but in practice, as a time for growth and development, and a time to "prepare the way of the Lord." Although the expectations have been disappointed, which many had begun two years ago to cherish, that the Great Awakening was to continue unabated, the effect has not been to produce feelings of despondency and discouragement. To use the language of one of the Presbyteries, "the churches seem only to be more fully and deeply impressed with the truth, that the struggle with sin is a real conflict and a ceaseless one;" and that it must be waged by faith, as well as by sight, "and with unwavering confidence and hope in Him 'who giveth us the victory.'" Although walking now, in this respect, more by faith and less by sight, it is quite manifest, that the churches are not without such confidence and hope. And this is based not only upon the promises, and upon the sufficiency of the ordinary means of grace, but upon the indications which are actually seen in connection with the use of these means. Special mention is made, very generally, of an increased attendance upon the services of the sanctuary, and of an unusual interest in them. And there seems to be quite a general expectation, on the part of the brethren, of corresponding results. There is great encouragement in this fact; because, while there are doubtless special times of refreshing from the Lord, to be prayed for, and to be looked for, we cannot doubt, that the Church has only to put forth specific effort and expectation in connection with the ordinary means of grace, to be blessed with a constant ingathering of souls. In this connection, both for what it indicates, and for what it suggests, we quote the following from the report of one of our largest Presbyteries. "The Presbytery have remarked," they say, "as a conspicuous feature in the reports from the churches, that those that fear the Lord have been more constrained to speak often one to another of the things concerning the kingdom: and, as a result, they have become more interested in the salvation of the unconverted, and more anxious to devise new ways, by which the Gospel might find those hitherto out of the reach of religious instruction, and those who would not voluntarily seek it. There has been less waiting for opportunities to do good, and more seeking for them than in former times; more pressing sense of obligation to labor appears to have rested upon the elders and the membership, and less of the feeling that their work was completed by regular attendance upon the services of the sanctuary; and that whatever else was to be done devolved upon the pastors. And these feelings have been practically developed in various ways."

In this connection, by way of illustration, the fact may be quoted, from another Presbytery, that one of the elders is accustomed to go forth, from time to time, on longer or shorter circuits, and spending from one to several days, for the purpose of circulating religious books and tracts, and having personal conversation with such as he may be able to reach. A good and a great work has thus been accomplished, through a single individual.

The following is very encouraging language in the same direction from another report: "Our elders especially are coming up to their true position in their churches, and in this Presbytery are becoming a model eldership."

Feeling the dependence of our Church upon her eldership, the clerical portion of the Committee have quoted this language and these facts, both for what they indicate and for what they suggest.

While the reports, generally, are thus favorable, as to the state of things among the churches, some of them are in a different strain, and mention facts which are fitted to humble us and make us sad. One Presbytery, for instance, numbering 16 churches, and these with an average membership of one hundred and sixty-four, report the additions on profession during the year as only twenty-six! There are other features, however, of this same report, which are interesting and full of promise; the advance, for example, of a thousand dollars in their contributions; the number of teachers engaged in the Sabbath-school; the multiplication and prosperity of Sabbath-schools, and the efforts which are being made to plant one at least in every school district in the Presbytery.

Another Presbytery, and this a large one too, says: "There is evidently a lack of spirituality and self-denying effort in Christ's service in most of our churches, and a spirit of apathy and worldliness prevails to an alarming extent." Let us labor and pray that there be no occasion for such reports, when the question shall be raised another year: "Watchman, what of the night?"

The Rising Generation.

The reports generally make special mention of the Sabbath-school, of increased interest in it, and increased efforts in that direction; and not only in behalf of the children of the Church and congregation, but of such as are gathered in mission schools. There seems to be special interest in this cause, accompanied with corresponding labors in every portion of our field. When Zion's watchmen report this fact to us, we cannot but be greatly cheered. It is auspicious of "great things," for the Church and for the world, when our Lord puts it into the hearts of his disciples to gather in the little ones, and especially to go out into the lanes and hedges, and by love "compel *them* to come in," whose ordinary associations do not bring them in. The instruction of the older youth and of adults in Bible-classes seems to be receiving very general attention. Its importance is appreciated, and greater efforts are being made to secure it. One of the most interesting features of one of the most important of our churches on the Pacific shore is its Bible-class of adults, which is largely attended, and sustained with constant and increasing interest. As coming from California, this is, especially, an interesting fact.

One of the Presbyteries reports, commending the plan as one which it would be well for all the churches to adopt, that "some of the churches have introduced classes of catechumens from amongst the young who are candidates for membership with the church, and have placed them under the direct supervision of one or more members of the session." The benefits, which will be likely to flow from such an arrangement, are too obvious to need to be specified. Comparatively little allusion is made to catechetical instruction. Some of the reports speak of its importance in connection with its general neglect; while a few indicate an increased attention to it. It is greatly to be desired, that an increased attention to it should become more general. Error in these days assumes so many and such plausible shapes, and so easily communicates itself to the atmosphere which we breathe, and to the food which our mental appetites crave, that it is of especial importance, that our children should be furnished, in due season, with that well-proved "form of sound words" which the Catechism gives us. We wonder that Christian parents are not afraid to send their children out into the world, as the world is in these days, without arming them with some specific safeguard against the soul-destroying errors which everywhere prevail. The Bible, they will, of course, be made familiar with; but it is very desirable that they be made familiar, also, (and so familiar that memory can never let them go,) with clear and definite doctrinal statements of what the Bible teaches. We would suggest, that, while the Church is to be held responsible for the catechetical instruction of the children within its reach, a greater responsibility rests upon Christian parents. Unless the Catechism is honored, and its words made "household words" in our Christian families, the efforts of the Church in this direction will be of little avail.

Church Edifices.

A large majority of the Presbyteries report the building, or the remodelling, of one or more houses of worship. In many cases, existing debts have been removed; and, in a few instances, parsonages have been either built or purchased. These are signs of stability and progress.

Church Organization.

In the organization of churches, however, comparatively little has been done. While we regret this, as we do any indication of a lack of progress, our regret rather goes back of this to the already inadequate supply of ministers. We certainly do not regret that churches have not been organized "in advance of all others" at every "four-corners" of the land, with the prospect that they would soon starve and die because of none to break unto them the bread of life. We believe that, as a denomination, we are wisely cautious in this matter; and that a failure to organize churches is not altogether a failure to remember the destitute portions of our field, and, so far as possible, to care for them. Our Presbyteries are evidently feeling an increased sense of responsibility in this matter.

Education for the Ministry.

The greater occasion for regret is, the lack of evidence, that men will be found to minister to the churches, when churches shall be organized. In this connection, your Committee regard it as a significant fact, that there is so great an indifference on the part of Christian parents to the ordinance of infant baptism. We do not discover that this prevails to any greater extent than hitherto; but, until our Presbyteries shall report a decided change for the better in this respect, we shall certainly have reason to fear, that Christian parents are still failing to give their children unreservedly to the Lord, and train them up to preach his word.

There would seem to be indicated, if your Committee might be permitted to draw an inference, in this connection, a lack of sufficient preaching on the importance of this ordinance, and on the obligations and privileges connected with it; and a lack of what is, perhaps, still more needed, personal and private conversation, on the part of ministers and elders, with such parents as do not bring their children forward—a lack of specific effort to give our little ones the benefit of this Heaven-appointed rite. While, however, we do not find, at this point, the evidence we should be glad to find of a prospective increase in the ministry, it is gratifying to see that the cause of Education for the Ministry is getting a stronger hold upon the attention and interest of the churches. The reports of the several Presbyteries show, as no general reports and no statistics can, that this cause is gradually taking the position which belongs to it.

In this as in other matters which are vital to our growth as a denomination, and to the prosperity of the Redeemer's kingdom in the field which he has assigned to us, there is gratifying evidence of increased interest and decided progress.

Pecuniary Contributions.

In the matter of Christian beneficence, although the pecuniary pressure has been more severe, during the past year, on some portions of our field than at any previous time, yet the indications are, that very few of our churches have fallen back from the ground previously held, while, in some quarters, a positive advance has been made; and yet by no means such an advance as is called for, both by the ability of the churches, and the necessities of Christ's kingdom. As a denomination, God, in his providence, seems, at the present time, to be making a special appeal to us, to enlarge our contributions, especially in the direction of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and the Education of Young Men for the Ministry. We would venture the hope, and whatever of suggestion it may carry, that in view of our remissness in the past, and of the special appeal which the Great Head of the Church is making upon us just now, the ministry and the eldership will so interpret, to the churches, the voice of God's providence, that the membership will feel it as an individual responsibility, and appreciate it as a personal privilege, to give unto the Lord, and especially for these great causes, as God has given them ability.

Temperance.

We regret that so little appears to indicate progress in the cause of Temperance. The reports from the Presbyteries, so far as they allude to this subject, would seem to indicate, that, on the whole, Intemperance is fearfully on the increase; while, at the same time, it is gratifying to know, that, in many places, this great evil is as vigorously opposed as ever, and in some places with good success.

Ministerial Obituary.

And now, acknowledging the good hand of God in the prosperity which has attended our Zion, during another year of her history, and especially in the preservation of the lives of so many of his servants, whose privilege it still is to serve him, in these days and in this great field of opportunity and of promise, it only remains sadly to chronicle the vacancies in our ranks, which have been made by the deaths of the following twenty brethren:

Abraham D. Brinkerhoff,	of the	Presbytery of	Champlain.
Flavel S. Gaylord,	"	"	Bath.
Joseph Myers,	"	"	Onondaga.
William L. Strong,	"	"	"
Archibald Bassett,	"	"	Delaware.
Artemas Dean,	"	"	Hudson.
Gideon N. Judd, D. D.,	"	"	"
Daniel T. Wood,	"	"	"
Francis C. Woodworth,	"	"	New York, 3d.
Henry A. Rowland, D. D.,	"	"	Newark.
Benjamin T. Neale,	"	"	Logansport.
Henry Root,	"	"	Marshall.
James McLauren,	"	"	Saginaw.
Ephraim T. Woodruff,	"	"	Grand River.
Harvey Coe,	"	"	Portage.
Franklin Putnam,	"	"	Indianapolis.
George Chandler,	"	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Levi Collins,	"	"	Belvidere.
Matthew Smith,	"	"	Keokuk.
Richard Renshaw,	"	"	Iowa Valley.

By order of the General Assembly.

THORNTON A. MILLS, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORT*

OF COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE WITH THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

THE Committee appointed by the General Assembly "to attend the next meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, to be held in Philadelphia, for the purpose of conveying to the Board the Assembly's views as herein expressed," (in the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions,) "and of conferring with it, or with any Committee which it may appoint, as to the best mode by which these results may be most wisely and prudently secured; as well as to confer in regard to the localities where our missionaries can be most conveniently and speedily concentrated," beg leave respectfully to report:

That, in performing the duty assigned to them by the General Assembly, they attended the meeting of the American Board at Philadelphia, in October last, and requested the Board to appoint a Committee to confer with them on the subjects which had been referred to them; that they were met in the most kind and cordial manner by the Board; and that, in accordance with their request, a Committee, composed of the following gentlemen, was appointed by the Board: Rev. John W. Chickering, D. D., Hon. Lewis Child, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., and Henry Hill, Esq.; and that, after a full and free conference on the subjects referred to by the Assembly, the Committee of the American Board submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted by the Board, and which the Committee of the General Assembly submit as the substance of their report, viz.:

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* See p. 80.

"The Committee of Conference with the Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church offer the following report:

"Having had the most free and fraternal intercourse with said Committee, both before and since the framing of this report, we come to the Board with the consciousness of a thorough mutual understanding, which we trust may be communicated and perpetuated throughout the vast body of Christ's people which we together represent.

"Sure we are, that if the cordial co-operative spirit of the Assembly's Committee, and the kind and reasonable tone of the resolutions under which they were appointed, shall prove an index of the prevalent feeling in that large and important branch of the one Church of Christ, it will not be their fault if this bright star of hope, this Christian union in Christian missions, shall disappear from the moral firmament, where, too often, alienated and contending churches, like clouds without water, cast deeper shadows over a dark and ruined world.

"The Committee have presented to us four resolutions of the General Assembly, and several specifications, under which they 'record their deliberate judgment as to what is due to the interests of their Church, and its vital connection with their foreign work.' The resolutions express,

"1st. Satisfaction in having shared with their brethren of other denominations in bringing into efficiency this institution, and in founding and sustaining so many important missions.

"2d. Joy in its success, and a desire for a yet brighter future.

"3d. Sympathy in its embarrassments, and a recommendation to enlarged, self-denying liberality among Presbyterian churches for its relief.

"And, 4th. The conviction that 'in order to a more thorough development of the missionary spirit,' in those churches, there should be, 'not a cessation from the co-operative principle in conducting the missionary work, but simply a closer connection with it, by means of the formation of Presbyteries in foreign lands, wherever numbers and circumstances will allow of such a course.'

"It is in furtherance of the last-named object that the Committee, as the organ of the General Assembly, have called our attention especially to these points among the specifications above alluded to.

"The Assembly desires,

"'1. That it should be distinctly understood, here and abroad, that the Board, its Prudential Committee, and officers, interpose no obstacles in the way of the formation of Foreign Presbyteries.

"'2. That the appointments of missionaries should be so disposed, wherever it is wise and practicable, as to facilitate the formation of such Presbyteries.

"'3. That there should be a free correspondence of our missionaries with the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly.'

"Respecting the first point, your Committee can hardly find terms more clear than the resolution adopted at Newark in 1856, to express our concurrence in what seems to us a reasonable desire on the part of our brethren. That resolution was in these words:

"'*Resolved*, That, on the whole subject of ecclesiastical relations and organizations, the principle of the Board is that of entire non-intervention on the part of the Board and its officers; that missionaries are free to organize themselves into, or connect themselves with, such ecclesiastical bodies or churches as they may choose, either on missionary ground or in this country; and that, in organizing churches, provided the principles held in common by the constituencies of this Board be not violated, the persons to be thus organized are free to adopt such forms of organization as they may prefer.'

"This Board, we trust, still cordially holds this view, which its Prudential Committee and officers, we have reason to suppose, have, with equal cordiality, endeavored faithfully to carry out.

"In regard to the second suggestion, your Committee see no difficulty. The Board must of course, in specific cases, through its Prudential Committee, be the judge as to what is wise and practicable; and, with so many elements to be taken into account, as to the fitness and desirableness of men for places and places for men, while the men are so few and the places so many, it may not always be easy to make such assignments as are here contemplated. But we fully concur with the Assembly and their Committee in the opinion, that both 'reason' and 'charity' demand the facilitation of such organizations wherever circumstances and a due regard to the great objects of this Board will allow, as has been practised with reference to other denominations represented in our missionary field.

"As to correspondence, your Committee approve and recommend the largest liberty, within the bounds of a wise Christian discretion.

"It is obvious, that this system of combined non-ecclesiastical missionary action involves certain mutual duties and claims, between the missionaries and those who have the immediate charge of sending and sustaining them.

"Questions are liable to arise between the Prudential Committee and the missionaries which belong to those two parties, and in regard to which premature correspondence, either with ecclesiastical bodies or with private friends, yet reaching the public eye, would be manifestly unsuitable and mutually injurious.

"This matter may be safely left to the good sense of missionaries and the wisdom of the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly, whose communications to their brethren abroad could be productive only of good, and whose prepared annual report of their foreign work, based upon most full and free communications from their foreign laborers, would doubtless 'quicken the zeal of their people in prayers and labors for the conversion of the whole world to Christ.'

"One other topic, not embraced in the Assembly's document, has been suggested to us during our informal and most fraternal conference.

"It relates to the appointment, by the Prudential Committee of the Board, of an annual delegation to the General Assembly; said delegation to present such statements as shall keep that body informed of the general progress of the work in which we are engaged; thus helping to secure the increasing sympathy and co-operation of this branch of the Christian Church, a constituent element of our nobly paternal institution. Your Committee recommend the adoption of this paper, as expressing to the General Assembly the cordial love and confidence of the Board, with the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the Board warmly reciprocate the kind and fraternal sentiments expressed through its documents and its Committee, with the hope that this 'jubilee' year may, through the zeal and liberality of these different branches of the Church of Christ, prove a 'year of jubilee' in our being redeemed from pecuniary pressure, as well as a year of the right hand of the Most High in all our churches at home and abroad.

"*Resolved*, That we cordially assent to the three propositions as above recited and explained, as expressing not only the wishes of the General

Assembly, but the feelings and intentions of the American Board, relying on the wisdom and candor of Christian men for their full interpretation and application.

"*Resolved*, That the Prudential Committee make arrangements annually for a delegation to the General Assembly, should such a measure be agreeable to that body.

"In conclusion, your Committee would renewedly express the great satisfaction they have had in the interview with the representatives of the General Assembly. Their spirits were evidently in harmony with the genial tone of the paper which they presented. And for ourselves, earnestly and hopefully, prayerfully, and we trust prophetically, we say—of this glorious, Heaven-ordained, Heaven-sanctioned union among Christ's people in building up Christ's kingdom—*Esto perpetua!*"

The Committee of the General Assembly, in conclusion, would reciprocate the warm expressions of confidence in the report of the Committee of the Board, in regard to the kindness, the cordiality, and the Christian spirit with which they were met. On the part of the Committee of the Board, and the Board itself, there was every disposition manifested to furnish all the facilities, which the General Assembly had instructed us to ask, in prosecuting the work of Missions, and to comply with the wishes of the Assembly; and the Committee of the General Assembly may be permitted to add, that in all their interviews with the Committee and the Board itself, there was the manifestation of a spirit, eminently in accordance with the requirements of Christian love, and as expressive of entire confidence in us as associated with them in the work in which the Board is engaged, and as appropriate to the solemn work of diffusing the Gospel of Christ around the world.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Albert Barnes, *Chairman*,
J. F. Stearns,
Edwin F. Hatfield,
John Jenkins,
W. Strong,
M. W. Baldwin.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany........	1803	5	81	4	7	70	240	138	8,561	104	127	$248 72	$3,812 68	$4,224 01	$812 78	$2,428 41	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain..............	1814	...	24	1	1	22	46	28	2,356	12	29	63 52	780 53	1,296 99	87 00	594 99	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy......................	1820	...	24	1	1	17	43	49	2,391	23	38	52 00	991 50	1,261 42	231 68	899 65	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany....................	1791	...	14	2	3	12	111	32	1,775	59	34	34 05	764 82	498 63	191 10	228 50	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia.................	1802	...	5	...	2	6	9	10	902	5	4	42 75	418 20	500 32	148 00	148 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill..................	1851	...	14	...	...	13	31	19	1,137	5	22	56 40	857 63	666 65	155 00	557 27	Leonard B. Van Dyck.
II. Synod of Utica.........	1829	4	81	4	8	76	122	93	6,990	26	89	233 05	2,111 28	2,735 08	1,326 66	1,538 93	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence...........	1818	...	9	...	...	6	40	8	590	...	27	29 00	194 58	416 00	....	95 99	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown..............	1822	...	15	1	...	21	19	32	1,972	7	13	52 00	282 93	735 16	143 59	449 38	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego..................	1823	...	11	...	...	16	10	11	1,499	4	15	27 00	431 48	354 48	62 49	135 67	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica......................	1842	...	46	3	8	33	53	42	2,929	15	34	125 05	1,202 29	1,229 44	1,120 58	857 89	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva......	1812	6	107	4	9	92	388	219	9,307	179	167	367 66	2,731 05	2,359 95	1,084 09	1,855 98	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva...................	1805	...	37	3	7	17	167	74	2,499	83	60	94 51	779 11	952 77	493 24	727 04	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath.......................	1817	...	17	...	...	17	45	24	1,305	17	27	54 82	292 25	138 25	16 00	....	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung................	1836	...	18	...	...	20	54	48	1,879	18	35	61 50	277 06	364 11	145 69	381 25	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca....................	1839	...	10	...	1	9	74	23	1,284	39	12	47 35	787 27	574 46	261 97	371 28	Lewis Kellogg.
5. Pennsylvania..........	1845	...	10	...	...	15	12	5	599	8	7	30 33	76 88	43 07	16 00	37 84	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons.....................	1856	...	15	1	1	14	36	45	1,741	14	26	79 15	518 48	287 29	151 19	338 57	William N. McHarg.
IV. Synod of Onondaga....	1855	4	76	16	13	71	344	177	8,017	148	175	288 52	3,104 72	3,420 53	2,687 70	1,968 70	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga................	1810	...	21	...	...	23	117	49	2,514	44	58	101 92	984 13	993 86	792 93	560 97	Royal A. Avery.
2. Cayuga..................	1810	...	30	15	6	21	172	77	2,360	85	52	113 50	1,140 21	1,004 76	1,418 45	795 86	Charles Hawley.
3. Cortland.................	1825	...	13	1	7	17	37	34	1,793	14	29	44 00	523 48	617 64	101 19	227 82	Ova H. Seymour.
4. Tioga......................	1829	...	12	...	...	10	18	17	1,350	5	36	29 10	456 90	804 27	375 13	384 05	Samuel H. Hall.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Susquehanna.	1853	3	41	1	9	49	202	80	4,204	72	66	$97 53	$987 79	$1,239 83	$412 05	$620 19	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	13	...	2	16	102	31	1,575	31	13	43 38	289 50	266 95	55 00	179 00	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango	1826	...	16	...	1	18	64	33	1,689	30	31	19 65	363 31	685 82	158 66	236 86	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	12	1	6	15	36	16	940	11	22	34 50	334 98	287 06	198 39	204 33	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	121	9	3	104	214	457	12,602	101	220	517 19	5,369 64	5,968 81	3,279 04	5,829 65	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	40	2	...	31	58	96	3,519	25	82	198 00	1,808 75	1,744 32	1,359 51	1,082 16	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	13	23	65	1,553	10	34	69 85	366 44	1,135 23	346 70	469 64	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	23	3	...	16	29	188	2,718	11	38	136 25	977 82	1,182 42	464 31	3,155 90	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	15	1	...	15	47	42	1,393	31	23	19 10	1,282 73	481 50	424 99	278 16	Gabriel S. Corwin.
5. Niagara	1823	...	17	2	3	18	23	51	2,351	10	30	64 32	642 96	934 46	612 78	813 79	J. Jerome Ward.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	9	1	...	11	34	15	1,068	14	13	29 67	290 94	190 88	70 75	30 00	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	236	40	86	156	595	955	25,940	175	698	1,147 87	36,674 03	36,623 57	45,405 53	12,870 72	Obadiah N. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	14	...	1	13	11	41	1,589	5	25	87 00	269 80	272 83	136 97	329 15	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	19	1	2	18	30	30	1,669	14	38	74 50	276 44	293 26	92 00	336 30	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	9	...	2	6	10	3	691	4	20	35 00	119 50	171 25	220 25	110 25	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	60	20	43	23	188	265	6,256	42	214	312 80	16,731 70	11,529 62	22,480 21	3,105 58	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	33	18	20	10	128	150	2,968	30	91	146 07	7,416 92	17,314 87	18,600 88	1,204 32	J. Parsons Hovey.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	18	...	1	10	48	96	2,476	10	55	114 60	1,325 73	1,832 84	663 50	289 31	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	37	1	8	21	71	160	5,442	15	152	265 00	9,441 58	3,844 25	2,441 07	6,779 31	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	22	...	1	21	57	165	2,521	33	42	82 00	517 00	808 00	357 00	675 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	24	...	8	34	52	45	2,328	22	61	30 90	575 36	556 65	413 65	41 50	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	5	95	4	35	84	600	309	12,962	179	436	479 05	16,184 53	7,023 58	6,284 33	12,951 21	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	10	1	1	14	44	20	1,350	14	33	40 00	1,672 57	771 32	286 94	605 00	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	28	...	8	20	226	141	3,075	49	143	168 00	8,784 00	3,015 00	2,786 00	10,571 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	32	1	18	27	280	130	5,930	102	230	220 00	4,171 93	2,480 24	2,595 05	1,510 95	Thomas J. Shepherd.

4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	15	1	8	10	50	18	1,111	14	30	51 05	1,556 03	757 02	616 34	264 26	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia*...	1831	...	10	1	...	13	...	...	1,496	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	William McLain, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNA.	1843	3	21	2	4	35	158	58	3,083	45	103	126 50	1,605 36	911 88	430 71	619 13	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie......................	1801	...	10	1	2	13	90	26	1,345	32	28	63 75	469 96	219 97	79 28	415 13	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville................	1842	...	6	...	1	16	54	11	969	12	22	19 50	133 20	27 69	111 00	69 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	1	1	6	14	21	769	1	53	43 25	1,002 20	664 22	240 43	135 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	96	7	23	105	439	363	8,354	134	248	342 34	3,553 18	3,076 16	1,749 90	1,556 71	William S. Huggins.
1. Detroit....................	1826	...	19	1	...	17	21	52	1,370	8	61	46 69	1,541 43	996 44	805 34	132 03	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	14	1	6	16	66	52	1,166	23	47	57 00	700 50	405 12	409 00	296 60	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall.................	1838	...	13	...	1	15	35	57	1,217	14	20	42 83	297 19	96 10	67 37	137 69	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw..............	1838	...	12	5	12	9	50	27	1,324	16	31	49 57	146 79	383 07	217 60	250 74	Benjamin Franklin.
5. Kalamazoo..............	1838	...	11	...	...	13	30	69	1,111	11	25	46 85	471 24	792 06	112 96	396 25	Milton Bradley.
6. Cold Water..............	1856	...	8	...	...	12	93	44	937	27	13	37 16	108 30	114 02	25 00	135 33	Reuben S. Goodman.
7. Saginaw..................	1856	...	9	...	4	14	124	34	839	29	42	43 84	219 64	237 28	68 50	161 58	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley..	1857	...	6	...	...	4	11	8	307	...	...	13 90	44 00	27 07	44 13	31 26	Courtney Smith.
9. Lake Superior.........	1857	...	4	...	...	5	9	20	83	6	9	4 50	24 09	25 00	....	15 23	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. SYNOD of W. RESERVE.	1825	7	103	6	41	83	230	220	6,637	81	120	223 84	3,971 70	3,529 41	1,101 35	3,921 12	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River............	1814	...	8	...	1	6	12	13	569	1	4	20 00	92 86	119 55	29 00	....	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage...................	1818	...	17	4	16	8	3	15	678	...	15	7 16	234 05	145 47	100 25	1,208 40	Samuel Lee.
3. Huron.....................	1823	...	15	...	1	15	92	28	1,190	38	27	61 50	440 77	448 69	148 74	141 53	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull.................	1827	...	14	...	6	13	26	17	1,155	6	25	41 30	354 35	336 04	81 01	247 08	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	27	2	10	14	36	65	1,497	9	28	60 13	2,368 93	1,262 64	437 35	967 90	James Shaw.
6. Elyria......................	1842	...	14	...	2	14	31	39	822	17	7	....	184 74	953 54	133 00	1,085 95	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee	1842	...	8	...	5	13	30	43	726	10	14	33 75	296 00	263 48	172 00	270 26	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.........	1814	4	52	6	14	72	264	137	4,855	76	142	87 78	2,285 03	1,301 08	630 72	1,392 77	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens.....................	1822	...	11	5	7	18	150	20	822	40	51	25 50	116 17	130 50	76 00	301 50	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala................	1809	...	17	...	...	25	36	44	1,808	16	39	13 28	660 86	622 62	164 47	76 45	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin..................	1835	...	17	...	6	18	48	56	1,439	19	34	....	261 37	309 30	69 45	49 50	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto.....................	1845	...	7	1	1	11	30	17	786	1	18	49 00	1,246 63	238 66	320 80	965 32	Joseph Chester.
XIII. S. OF CINCINNATI......	1829	3	44	15	6	39	140	112	3,064	49	53	154 70	848 57	2,107 44	1,053 91	453 66	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati...............	1828	...	25	9	6	17	47	60	1,615	7	30	70 15	564 47	859 33	709 41	140 66	George M. Maxwell.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
2. Dayton	1838	...	10	3	...	11	72	36	893	36	17	$45 05	$251 25	$988 67	$280 00	$270 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	9	3	...	11	21	16	556	6	6	39 50	29 85	259 44	64 50	43 00	John Hussey.
XIV. Synod of Indiana	1826	4	40	1	11	62	180	120	3,350	59	147	174 60	1,588 69	1,744 19	3,239 19	448 85	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	8	1	3	15	76	42	951	28	48	48 55	676 25	523 17	242 45	184 65	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	12	...	7	14	29	32	947	11	38	50 60	322 96	330 55	326 65	180 20	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	12	...	1	18	30	26	803	10	24	43 00	391 18	657 84	2,545 09	71 00	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	8	...	...	15	45	20	649	10	37	32 45	198 30	232 63	125 00	13 00	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	41	1	1	58	119	143	2,700	43	77	107 65	566 28	355 37	214 40	76 30	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	15	1	...	11	43	37	569	12	14	35 00	255 05	78 00	51 40	24 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	12	...	...	17	8	38	828	2	17	26 00	193 23	151 72	....	....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	...	18	55	48	915	20	26	26 00	73 00	80 00	138 00	52 30	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	6	...	1	12	13	20	388	9	20	20 65	45 00	45 65	25 00	....	John Fairchild.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	66	1	3	90	293	176	4,298	91	157	184 50	3,126 50	474 70	971 45	668 91	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	1	1	20	21	14	1,171	10	10	50 00	568 00	101 00	....	15 00	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	16	...	...	20	156	48	1,115	49	59	53 55	355 50	184 00	230 45	247 05	George I. King.
3. Wabash	1833	...	7	...	...	11	24	42	349	1	25	14 35	90 30	71 00	5 00	91 90	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	25	...	2	39	92	72	1,663	31	63	66 60	2,112 70	118 70	736 00	414 96	Cornelius H. Taylor.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	6	89	...	18	78	332	344	4,723	53	207	222 77	7,831 17	2,511 23	1,075 85	1,513 25	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	18	...	...	12	52	29	388	18	23	20 00	70 50	83 75	....	....	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	15	...	...	7	29	41	586	4	20	25 30	249 36	143 75	50 00	271 11	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	10	...	...	14	73	28	597	7	24	28 75	180 70	86 37	....	....	William J. Johnston.
4. Chicago	1847	...	27	...	8	21	124	177	1,855	14	88	84 12	7,068 06	1,943 57	993 35	1,041 89	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	10	...	10	9	23	29	800	5	18	39 75	111 50	206 04	10 00	136 00	Henry B. Holmes.
6. Bloomington	1857	...	9	...	...	15	31	40	497	5	34	24 85	151 05	47 75	22 50	64 25	James R. Dunn.

XVIII. S. of Wisconsin....	1857	3	28	1	...	37	87	34	1,524	18	22	69 25	456 24	78 59	122 00	9 00	William A. Niles.
1. Milwaukee..............	1851	...	10	...	...	10	48	20	694	15	...	32 15	388 33	58 59	100 00	8 25	William A. Niles.
2. Fox River..............	1851	...	9	...	...	12	30	10	396	3	20	16 40	37 00	....	22 00	....	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1856	...	9	1	...	15	9	4	434	...	2	20 70	30 91	20 00	....	75	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. Synod of Iowa........	1853	6	51	...	7	70	129	122	2,047	37	83	87 30	240 61	141 06	155 53	39 75	Peter S. Van Nest.
1. Des Moines.............	1845	...	7	...	...	11	19	25	227	1	13	11 35	29 80	11 00	....	13 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City..............	1852	...	20	...	1	24	44	60	756	18	35	36 15	88 09	39 00	143 53	15 00	Isaac W. Atherton.
3. Keokuk.................	1852	...	8	...	6	9	15	8	382	1	16	19 25	47 22	10 06	12 00	11 75	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque................	1855	...	7	...	...	3	7	21	172	1	7	8 95	40 50	81 00	....	....	James H. Trowbridge.
5. Iowa Valley............	1857	...	4	...	...	12	41	6	232	16	12	11 60	35 00	....	....	....	Williston Jones.
6. Chariton...............	1860	...	5	...	...	11	3	2	278	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Asa Martin.
XX. S. of Minnesota.......	1858	3	20	1	1	18	29	49	558	7	38	27 85	103 75	168 97	29 00	8 70	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota.................	1846	...	9	1	...	6	6	5	151	3	16	7 55	21 75	99 97	14 00	8 70	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnosota..............	1850	...	7	...	...	8	6	14	263	...	7	13 50	59 00	35 00	....	....	John Mattocks.
3. Winona.................	1857	...	4	...	1	4	17	30	144	4	15	6 80	23 00	34 00	15 00	....	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. Synod of Missouri...	1832	3	20	...	1	22	49	87	776	10	83	43 05	787 15	300 35	150 00	143 00	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis..............	1831	...	9	...	1	5	33	78	562	7	61	30 55	787 15	295 35	150 00	143 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri....	1845	...	7	...	...	4	16	9	214	3	22	12 50	....	5 00	....	....	William W. Whipple.
3. Kansas*................	1859	...	4	...	...	13	...	...	....	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Isaac C. Beach.
XXII. S. of A. California.	1857	3	16	...	...	11	17	21	381	3	48	12 75	90 00	42 50	10 00	30 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco*........	1849	...	7	...	...	4	...	...	123	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Siorra Nevada.........	1857	...	3	...	...	4	6	10	154	1	34	6 65	75 00	42 50	....	....	Walter Frear.
3. San José...............	1857	...	6	...	...	3	11	11	104	2	14	6 10	15 00	....	10 00	30 00	W. Wallace Brier.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	81	4	7	70	240	138	8,561	104	127	$248.72	$3,812.68	$4,224.01	$812.78	$2,428.41
2. Utica	1829	4	81	4	8	76	122	93	6,990	26	89	233.05	2,111.28	2,735.08	1,326.66	1,538.93
3. Geneva	1812	6	107	4	9	92	388	219	9,307	179	167	367.66	2,731.05	2,359.95	1,084.09	1,855.98
4. Onondaga	1855	4	76	16	13	71	344	177	8,017	148	175	288.52	3,104.72	3,420.53	2,687.70	1,968.70
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	41	1	9	49	202	80	4,204	72	66	97.53	987.79	1,239.83	412.05	620.19
6. Genesee	1821	6	121	9	3	104	214	457	12,602	101	220	517.19	5,369.64	5.968.81	3,279.04	5,829.65
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	236	40	86	156	595	955	25,940	175	698	1147.87	36,674.03	36,623.57	45,405.53	12,870.72
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	95	4	35	84	600	309	12,962	179	436	479.05	16,184.53	7,023.58	6,284.33	12,951.21
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	21	2	4	35	158	58	3,083	45	103	126.50	1,605.36	911.88	430.71	619.13
10. Michigan	1834	9	96	7	23	105	439	363	8,354	134	248	342.34	3,553.18	3,076.16	1,749.90	1,556.71
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	101	6	41	83	230	220	6,637	81	120	223.84	3,971.70	3,529.41	1,101.35	3,921.12
12. Ohio	1814	4	52	6	14	72	264	137	4,855	76	142	87.78	2,285.03	1,301.08	630.72	1,392.77
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	44	15	6	39	140	112	3,064	49	53	154.70	848.57	2,107.44	1,053.91	453.66
14. Indiana	1826	4	40	1	11	62	180	120	3,350	59	147	174.60	1,588.69	1,744.19	3,239.19	448.85
15. Wabash	1851	4	41	1	1	58	119	143	2,700	43	77	107.65	566.28	355.37	214.40	76.30
16. Illinois	1831	4	66	1	3	90	293	176	4,298	91	157	184.50	3,126.50	474.70	971.45	668.91
17. Peoria	1843	6	89	...	18	78	332	344	4,723	53	207	222.77	7,831.17	2,511.23	1,075.85	1,513.25
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	28	1	...	37	87	34	1,524	18	22	69.25	456.24	78.59	122.00	9.60
19. Iowa	1853	6	51	...	7	70	129	122	2,047	37	83	87.30	240.61	141.06	155.53	39.75
20. Minnesota	1858	3	20	1	1	18	29	49	558	7	38	27.85	103.75	168.97	29.00	8.70
21. Missouri	1832	3	20	...	1	22	49	87	776	10	83	43.05	787.15	300.35	150.00	143.00
22. Alta California	1857	3	16	...	...	11	17	21	381	3	48	12.75	90.00	42.50	10.00	30.00
		104	1523	123	300	1482	5171	4414	134,933	1690	3506	$5244.47	$98,029.95	$80,338.29	$72,226.19	$50,944.94

MINUTES, 1861.

Syracuse, N. Y., May 16th, 1861.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church of the city of Syracuse, N. Y., on Thursday, the 16th of May, 1861, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Tim. 3: 14, 15: "These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly; but, if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [434]

Thursday, May 16th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled, as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Joseph T. Willett.	
2. *Troy*,	A. Bordman Lambert, D. D.,	Jacob Ackart,
	Andrew J. Fennell,	William Hannas.
3. *Albany*,	Philander Barbour,	Smith Griffith.
4. *Columbia*,	Charles S. Sylvester.	
5. *Catskill*,	Lyman Gilbert, D. D.,	Zina Whittlesey.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *St. Lawrence*,	John Waugh,	Sylvanus Cone.
2. *Watertown*,	Abraham T. Young,	Hon. Jas. A. Bell (3).
3. *Oswego*,	Ralph Robinson.	
4. *Utica*,	Nicholas W. Goertner, D. D.,	Hon. Spencer Kellogg,
	Elijah H. Bonney,	Ingham Townsend.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	Blackleach B. Gray,	Ammi Pease,
	Thomas Lounsbury, D. D.,	Henry W. Jones.
2. *Bath*,	Mills B. Gelston,	Levi Hotchkiss (4).
3. *Chemung*,	John Gray,	John Ross.
4. *Ithaca*,	David Torrey,	Joseph A. Tyler.
5. *Pennsylvania*,	James Blakeslee,	John C. Robb.
6. *Lyons*,	Horace Eaton,	Franklin Williams.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Medad Pomeroy,	Hon. Israel S. Spencer.
2. *Cayuga*,	Jonathan B. Condit, D. D.,	Israel F. Terrill,
	Henry Fowler (4),	William Webster.
3. *Cortland*,	Albert Bigelow,	Samuel N. Kinney.
4. *Tioga*,	George N. Boardman.	

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Lemuel Clark,	David Cushman.
2. *Chenango*,	John McLeish,	Daniel Beebee.
3. *Delaware*,	Charles S. Marvin,	James G. Redfield. [435]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Grosv. W. Heacock, D. D.,	Aaron Rumsey.
	Claudius B. Lord,	
2. *Ontario*,	Luther Conklin,	Jay E. Lee.
3. *Rochester*,	George Freeman,	George W. Allen,
	Linus W. Billington,	Frederick Starr.
4. *Genesee*,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D.,	Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.
5. *Niagara*,	William C. Wisner, D. D. (3).	
6. *Genesee Valley*,	John N. Hubbard,	John P. Osborne.

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Daniel Higbie,	Walter H. Conklin.
2. *North River*,	A. Cogswell Frissell.	
3. *Long Island*,	James T. Hamlin.	
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Asa D. Smith, D. D.,	William H. Christie,
	J. Geddes Craighead,	John G. Parker.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	J. Parsons Hovey,	Saml. M. Blatchford,
	Gurdon W. Noyes,	Albert N. Brown (5).
6. *Brooklyn*,	Theodore L. Cuyler,	J. Milton Smith.
7. *Newark*,	James Hoyt,	James R. Sayre,
	Theodore S. Brown,	Jacob Johnson.
8. *Rockaway*,	Joel Campbell.	
9. *Montrose*,	Henry A. Riley,	Richard L Seeley.
	Henry Van Houten,	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	D. Hopkins Emerson,	Jesse T. Ash.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	John Jenkins, D. D.,	Hon. Joseph Allison,
	Robert Adair,	Adam C. Eckfeldt.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Douglas K. Turner,	John Clouds.
	Daniel G. Mallery,	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	John W. Davis,	Joseph D. Halbert.
5. *Dist. of Columbia.*		

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Alexander Porter,	Jacob Fritts.
2. *Meadville*,	Oliver N. Chapin,	Eli D. Catlin.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Henry Kendall, D. D.,	Lauriston R. Livingston.

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X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	William P. Wastell.	
2. *Monroe*,	Addison K. Strong,	Hon. Daniel S. Bacon.
3. *Marshall*,	Hosea Kittredge,	Joseph Mills.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	Samuel A. Mapes.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Elisha B. Sherwood,	Martin Heydenburk.
6. *Cold Water*,	James Knox,	Alexander H. Hicks.
7. *Saginaw*,	William C. Smith,	Miron C. Kenney, M. D.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Lucius I. Root.	
9. *Lake Superior*,	Cicero B. Stevens (3).	

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Justus L. Janes.	
2. *Portage*.		
3. *Huron*,	John B. Fowler,	Timothy Lawrence.
4. *Trumbull*,	William F. Millikan,	John Gibson.
5. *Cleveland*,	Joseph B. Bittinger.	
6. *Elyria*,	Erastus Cole.	
7. *Maumee*,	Charles Richards.	

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Charles Merwin.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Ebenezer Buckingham.	
3. *Franklin*,	Henry Calhoun,	John T. Rowland.
4. *Scioto*,	Thomas Towler.	

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Henry Smith, D. D.,	Ebenezer S. Padgett.
	George M. Maxwell,	
2. *Dayton*,	Hiram Gregg.	
3. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin Graves,	Thomas Archer.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John M. Bishop,	James M. Hains.
2. *Madison*,	Edwin Black.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Asahel L. Brooks.	
4. *Green Castle*,	John A. Tiffany,	Reuben S. Ragan.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	James H. Johnston,	James Park.
2. *St. Joseph*,	George C. Noyes,	Andrew M. Wing.
3. *Logansport*,	Daniel Rice,	
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Samuel Sawyer,	George W. Rhodes. [437]

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	George C. Wood.	
2. *Schuyler*,	Samuel E. Wishard,	Reece H. Griffith.
3. *Wabash*,	William R. Palmer,	D. Dennis Cadwell.
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton,	
	George W. Goodale.	

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Nahum Gould,	Milo Tuttle.
2. *Knox*,	Charles E. Stebbins,	Cephas Arms (3).
3. *Galena*,	William J. Johnston.	
4. *Chicago*,	Yates Hickey, Zephaniah M. Humphrey,	Charles H. Quinlan, Hon. Benjamin W. Raymond.
5. *Belvidere*,	Hutchins Taylor,	John J. Buckley.
6. *Bloomington*,	Isaac P. Stryker,	Hon. Harry D. Cook.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	George W. Elliott,	Jonathan Ford (6).
2. *Fox River*,	Silas H. Ashmun,	Charles T. Wilkinson,
3. *Columbus*,	Benjamin G. Riley,	Elijah D. Kanouse.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Asa Johnson,	Jacob I. Denman, M. D.
2. *Iowa City*,	Isaac W. Atherton.	
3. *Keokuk*,	Glen Wood,	Prof. Edwin Pierce.
4. *Dubuque*,	James H. Trowbridge,	James R. Stillman.
5. *Iowa Valley*.	Williston Jones.	
6. *Chariton*.		

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	Moses N. Adams,	William P. McMaster.
2. *Minnesota*,	Marcus Hicks.	
3. *Winona*,	Edmund D. Holt,	Chauncey G. B. Jones.

XXI. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco*.		
2. *Sierra Nevada*,	Walter Frear.	
3. *San José*.		

XXII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.,	Frederick E. Robinson.
2. *Northern Missouri*,	John L. Jones,	Harvey J. Mann.
3. *Lexington*.		
4. *Kansas*,	Isaac C. Beach.	[438]

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*.	
2. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*,	Rev. Andrew G. Wylie.
3. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*.	
4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*.	
5. *General Association of Massachusetts*,	Rev. Samuel J. Spalding.

6. *General Association of Connecticut,* Rev. Charles W. Clapp.
7. *General Association of New Hampshire.*
8. *General Conference of Maine.*
9. *General Convention of Vermont,* Rev. Silas Aiken, D. D.
10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*
11. *Union of the Evangelical Churches of France,* Rev. George Fisch.

The Committee also reported the attendance of Rev. Samuel J. Spalding, from the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Lucius I. Root, from the Presbytery of Grand River Valley; Rev. A. Cogswell Frissell, from the Presbytery of North River; Rev. Silas H. Ashmun, from the Presbytery of Fox River; Rev. John A. Tiffany, from the Presbytery of Green Castle; Rev. Horace Eaton, from the Presbytery of Lyons; Rev. John B. Fowler, from the Presbytery of Huron; Elder James Park, from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville; and Elder Reece H. Griffith, from the Presbytery of Schuyler, without Commissions. Their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. Marcus Hicks, and Elder Frederick Starr.

The Committee presently reported, that they had obtained satisfactory information of the regular appointment of these Commissioners, and, on their recommendation, their names were added to the Roll.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon the Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cayuga, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. Ebenezer Buckingham, of the Presbytery of Pataskala, and Rev. Addison K. Strong, of the Presbytery of Monroe, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk. [439]

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, that the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The Second Presbyterian church of Cincinnati, Ohio, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next Assembly. A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., Rev. George M. Maxwell, and Elder Ebenezer Padgett, were appointed to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

Resolved, That a Special *Committee* of five be appointed for the purpose of recommending to the Assembly, and reporting as early as practicable, what action, by resolution or otherwise, it is meet for the Assembly to take, in view of the *present condition of the country*.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M., to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

The Assembly voted to unite with the congregation of this church in a meeting for prayer this evening with reference to the state of our country. Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., was appointed to preside.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Andrew J. Fennell, of the Presbytery of Troy.
" Charles S. Sylvester, " Columbia.
" Samuel E. Wishard, " Schuyler.
Mr. J. Milton Smith, Elder, " Brooklyn.
" Milo Tuttle, " " Ottawa.
" Charles T. Wilkinson, Elder, " Fox River.
" Zina Whittlesey, " " Catskill.
" John C. Robb, " " Pennsylvania.
" Joseph A. Tyler, " " Ithaca.
Rev. George Fisch, from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France. [440]

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Asa D. Smith, D. D., A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., George N. Boardman, Luther Conklin. *Elders*—Hon. Israel S. Spencer, Samuel M. Blatchford, Hon. Henry D. Cook.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Henry Kendall, D. D., Thomas Lounsbury, D. D., James H. Johnston, Horace Eaton. *Elders*—Thomas Archer, Hon. Daniel S. Bacon, Lauriston R. Livingston.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Lyman Gilbert, D. D., George Freeman, Joel Campbell. *Elders*—Hon. Benj. W. Raymond, Jacob J. Denman M. D., Franklin Williams.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—John Jenkins, D. D., Gurdon W. Noyes, Daniel Rice, Alexander Porter. *Elders*—Israel F. Terrill, Frederick Starr, Samuel N. Kinney.

5. *Church Extension. Ministers*—Henry A. Nelson, D. D., J. Geddes Craighead, Augustus T. Norton, John M. Bishop. *Elders*—John G. Parker, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, Jacob Johnson.

6. *Education. Ministers*—Henry Smith, D. D., Joseph B. Bittinger, Nicholas W. Goertner, D. D., J. Parsons Hovey. *Elders*—William H. Christie, Ebenezer S. Padgett, James R. Sayre.

7. *Publication. Ministers*—Samuel H. Cox, D. D., Theodore L. Cuyler, George M. Maxwell, Marcus Hicks. *Elders*—Prof. Edwin Pierce, Myron C. Kenny, M. D., William P. McMasters.

8. *Narrative. Ministers*—Zephaniah M. Humphrey, James Hoyt, David Torrey, Asahel L. Brooks. *Elders*—Aaron Rumsey, Richard L. Seeley, Ingham Townsend.

9. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Henry A. Riley, Asa Johnson, Elisha B. Sherwood, William P. Wastell. *Elders*—James M. Hains, John J. Buckley, Elijah D. Kanouse. [441]

10. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Robert Adair, Hiram Gregg, John W. Davis, Abraham T. Young. *Elders*—Hon. Israel S. Spencer, George W. Allen, William Webster.

11. *Mileage.* Hon. Spencer Kellogg, Ammi Pease, Jacob Ackart.

Special Committee on the State of the Country. Ministers—Henry Kendall, D. D., Asa D. Smith, D. D., John Jenkins, D. D. *Elders*—Samuel M. Blatchford, J. Milton Smith.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—Albert Bigelow, William Jones. *Elder*—Sylvanus Cone.
2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—James H. Trowbridge, Philander Barbour. *Elder*—Chauncey G. B. Jones.
3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Medad Pomeroy, James T. Hamlin. *Elder*—Harvey J. Mann.
4. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Charles Merwin, Justus L. Janes. *Elder*—Joseph Mills.
5. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—James Blakeslee, Isaac W. Atherton. *Elder*—Walter H. Conklin.
6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—Isaac C. Beach, Daniel Higbie. *Elder*—Asa E. Andrews.
7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—D. Hopkins Emerson, James Knox. *Elder*—Eli D. Catlin.
8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—George C. Wood, Charles E. Stebbins. *Elder*—John T. Rowland.
9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Linus W. Billington, Gustavus L. Foster. *Elder*—Alexander H. Hicks.
10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Ralph Robinson, Henry Van Houten. *Elder*—John P. Osborne.
11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Henry Calhoun, Moses N. Adams. *Elder*—Frederick E. Robinson.
12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Charles Richards, William C. Smith. *Elder*—Jacob Fritts.
13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Edmund D. Holt, Samuel Sawyer. *Elder*—David Cushman.
14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Hosea Kittredge, Silas H. Ashmun. *Elder*—Jay A. Lee.
15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Elijah H. Bonney, Walter Frear. *Elder*—John Clouds. [442]
16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—John N. Hubbard, Hutchins Taylor. *Elder*—John Ross.
17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Blackleach B. Gray, Lucius I. Root. *Elder*—Timothy Lawrence.
18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Erastus Cole, Lemuel Clark. *Elder*—Reece H. Griffith.
19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Isaac P. Stryker, A. Cogswell Frissell. *Elder*—Andrew M. Wing.
20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—Thomas Towler, Charles S. Marvin. *Elder*—Samuel A. Mapes.
21. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Claudius B. Lord, Edwin Black. *Elder*—William Hannas.
22. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—John Gray, John B. Fowler. *Elder*—Smith Griffith.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. Ebenezer Padgett and Zina Whittlesey.

Reports were received from the Delegates, appointed by the last Assembly, to Corresponding Bodies: from Rev. William H. McCarer, the Delegate to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Henry Little, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; Rev. George A. Howard, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; Rev. Thornton A. Mills, the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; Rev. Royal A. Avery, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; and Rev. John Spaulding, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Special Committee on Home Missions, appointed by the last General Assembly, presented their report, which was accepted. The plan and resolutions contained in the report were ordered to be printed; and their consideration was made the first order of the day for Monday next, in the afternoon.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [443]

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Rev. Daniel G. Mallery, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th.
Hon. Joseph Allison, Elder, " " " 3d.
Mr. Reuben S. Ragan, " " " of Green Castle.

It was made the order of the day for Monday, at 10 o'clock A. M., to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of Rev. James Knox, Rev. Mills B. Gelston, Rev. Joseph T. Willet, Rev. Theodore S. Brown, and Rev. Benjamin Graves.

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, Rev. Andrew J. Fennell, and Rev. Oliver N. Chapin, were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to take measures to secure more accuracy and completeness in the reports of our Presbyteries, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred an Overture from the Presbytery of Chicago, asking "the General Assembly to take measures to secure more accuracy and completeness in the reports of our Presbyteries to the Assembly, especially in the matter of benevolent contributions;" beg leave to report:

1. That the most minute directions are annually published, in the Appendix to the Minutes of the Assembly, for the use of the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries; a careful observance of which will secure the ends of the Overture; and to these directions they would call the special attention of the several Clerks.

2. That it is desirable, that every Presbytery furnish themselves with proper blank reports, after the model of the reports required by the Assembly; that every session have a copy sent to them at least a week previous to the meeting of the Presbytery, at which the report is to be presented; and that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery be charged with this service.

3. That the Publication Committee are ready at all times to furnish the

Presbyteries with blanks of this description; so prepared, that the various contributions to benevolent objects may be accurately grouped under the respective headings that are prefixed to the Assembly's reports; and that it would secure far more accuracy and completeness in these reports, if the several Presbyteries should supply themselves from this source.

No reason appears for the delinquency of a single church in our connection, if these suggestions be regarded, and the Stated Clerks charge themselves with the duty of procuring from every church a seasonable and accurate annual report of its statistics for the closing year. [444]

The first Monday of January, 1862, was recommended as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; and the last Thursday of February as a concert of prayer for Colleges and other institutions of learning.

Rev. George Fisch, Delegate from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France, addressed the Assembly. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That we have heard, with sentiments of cordial Christian communion and sympathy, the statements of our honored brother from France, touching the cause there of our common Master, as connected with the efforts of pastor and flock of the Taitbout chapel, in Paris; that we appreciate the interests and the history of that mighty empire, and pray for his prospered usefulness in its famous capital; commending his mission to the favor of all American Christians; praying also, that all Europe may be so spiritually Christianized speedily, as to become every way evangelical, knowing and loving the truth of the glorious gospel of the blessed God, as the supreme good and glory of human kind.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

The Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report, which, having been read, was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Permanent Committee on Church Extension presented their annual report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18*th*, 9 *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Cicero B. Stevens, of the Presbytery of Lake Superior.
Mr. Cephas Arms, Elder, " " Knox.
" James A. Bell, " " " Watertown.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

The Committee also reported, recommending that the sermon on Home Missions be preached on Monday next, at 7½ P. M.; the sermon on Publication, on Wednesday, at 7½ P. M.; and that the Lord's Sup[445]per be celebrated in this house, on Thursday, at 3 o'clock P. M., agreeably to the following order: The Moderator to preside; the Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., to administer the elements; and the following elders to distribute them: Hon.

Israel S. Spencer, Hon. Spencer Kellogg, Hon. Daniel S. Bacon, Hon. Joseph Allison, Hon. Benjamin W. Raymond, Richard L. Seeley, Smith Ostrom, Samuel M. Blatchford, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, Lauriston R. Livingston, Elijah D. Kanouse, and Ebenezer S. Padgett.

The Committee on Elections reported the attendance of Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., of the Presbytery of Niagara, without a Commission, and that, having obtained satisfactory information of his regular appointment, they recommend that his name be added to the Roll; and it was so ordered.

Rev. John Marsh, D. D., secretary of the American Temperance Union, obtained leave, and addressed the Assembly on the subject of Temperance; whereupon the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Whereas, in the providence of God, our beloved country is brought into a state of very unusual excitement and conflict, in which there is danger of a great increase of intemperance;

Resolved, That the circumstance demands the special attention of the ministry and churches; and, while we render thanks for the preparation which has been made for these days of conflict, by the great Temperance reformation, we do earnestly ask for extraordinary prayer and labor, that our noble young men who go, in the spirit of Lexington and Bunker Hill, to the defense of the Constitution and laws, may be kept from the temptations of the camp and the field, and that we may come out of this war with far greater ability, than we have ever possessed, to wage successful combat with intemperance and every other moral evil which hinders the advent of the kingdom of Christ.

On the recommendation of the Committee appointed for the purpose, Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., and Rev. George M. Maxwell, with Messrs. Ebenezer Padgett, Philip Hinkle, and E. P. Starr, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the next General Assembly.

The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund presented their annual report, which was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication was presented, and, having been read, was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Special Committee on the State of the Country presented their report, which was read and recommitted.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [446]

Monday, May 20th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Rev. Henry Fowler, of the Presbytery of Cayuga.
Mr. Levi Hotchkiss, Elder, " Bath.

Rev. Samuel J. Spalding, the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, addressed the Assembly.

Communications were read from Rev. Egbert C. Smyth, the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine, and Rev. Charles W. Camp, the Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The Rev. George Duffield, Jr., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, reported that the meeting of that Synod had been indefinitely postponed.

The Special Committee on the State of the Country again presented their report.

Pending the discussion of a motion to adopt it, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

An invitation to visit the New York Asylum for Idiots was received through Dr. H. B. Wilbur.

The Assembly accepted the invitation, and directed an expression of thanks to be returned to Dr. Wilbur.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on the State of the Country. The report was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, A portion of the people of the United States of America have risen up against the rightful authority of the Government; have instituted what they call the "Confederate States of America;" in the name and defense of which they have made war against the United States; have seized the property of the Federal Government; have assailed and overpowered its troops engaged in the discharge of their duty; and are now in armed rebellion against it; the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America cannot forbear to express their amazement at the wickedness of such proceedings, and at the bold advocacy and defense thereof, not [447] only in those States in which ordinances of "secession" have been passed, but in several others; and

Whereas, the General Assembly,—in the language of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia, on the occasion of the Revolutionary War,—"being met, at a time, when public affairs wear so threatening an aspect, and when (unless God in his sovereign providence speedily prevent it) all the horrors of civil war are to be apprehended, are of opinion, that they cannot discharge their duty to the numerous congregations under their care, without addressing them at this important crisis; and, as a firm belief and habitual recollection of the power and presence of the living God, ought, at all times, to possess the minds of real Christians, so in seasons of public calamity, when the Lord is known by the judgments which he executeth, it would be an ignorance or indifference highly criminal not to look up to Him with reverence, to implore his mercy by humble and fervent prayer, and, if possible, to prevent his vengeance by unfeigned repentance;" therefore,

Resolved, 1. That, inasmuch as the Presbyterian Church, in her past history, has frequently lifted up her voice against oppression, and has shown herself a champion of constitutional liberty, as against both despotism and anarchy, throughout the civilized world, we should be recreant to our high trust were we to withhold our earnest protest against all such unlawful and treasonable acts.

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly, and the churches which it represents, cherish an undiminished attachment to the great principles of civil and religious freedom, on which our National Government is based; under the influence of which our fathers prayed and fought and bled; which issued in the establishment of our independence, and by the preservation of which, we believe that the common interests of evangelical religion and civil liberty will be most effectively sustained.

Resolved, 3. That, inasmuch as we believe. according to our Form of Government, that "God, the Supreme Lord and King of all the world, hath ordained civil magistrates to be under him over the people for his own glory and the public good, and to this end hath armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of them that are good, and for the punishment of evil-doers;" there is, in the judgment of the Assembly, no blood or treasure too precious to be devoted to the defense and perpetuity of the Government in all its constitutional authority.

Resolved, 4. That all those, who are endeavoring to uphold the Constitution, and maintain the Government, of these United States in the exercise of its lawful prerogatives, are entitled to the sympathy and support of all Christian and law-abiding citizens.

Resolved, 5. That it be recommended to all our pastors and churches, to be instant and fervent in prayer for the President of the United States, and all in authority under him; that wisdom and strength may be given them in the discharge of their arduous duties; for the Congress of the United States; for the Lieutenant-General commanding the army-in-chief, and all our soldiers; that God may [448] shield them from danger in the hour of peril, and, by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the army and navy, renew and sanctify them, so that, whether living or dying, they may be the servants of the Most High.

Resolved, 6. That, in the countenance which many ministers of the Gospel and other professing Christians are now giving to treason and rebellion against the Government, we have great occasion to mourn for the injury thus done to the kingdom of the Redeemer; and that, though we have nothing to add to our former significant and explicit testimonials on the subject of slavery, we yet recommend our people to pray, more fervently than ever, for the removal of this evil, and all others, both social and political, which lie at the foundation of our present national difficulties.

Resolved, 7. That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the officers of the General Assembly, be forwarded to His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States.

Immediately upon the adoption of this report, the Assembly united in fervent prayer for the country and its rulers.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions reported the names of Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, 3d, principal; and Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate; and their report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. The following additional Commissioner and Delegate were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll: Rev. Charles W. Clapp, Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut; Mr. Albert N. Brown, Elder, of the Presbytery of New York, 4th.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had granted leave of absence to Mr. John H. Ross, of the Presbytery of Chemung, and to Mr. Jesse T. Ash, of the Presbytery of Wilmington.

The Committee, appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, reported, that they had found the accounts correct, and recommended that the report be approved. Their report was adopted.

Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., addressed the Assembly with reference to Ingham University.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. David Torrey, Rev. Claudius B. Lord, and Hon. James A. Bell, were appointed to prepare a suitable minute with reference to this institution. [449]

The Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred, with instructions, to the Standing Committee on Education.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 3, "with regard to a fund to be raised for the purpose of rendering aid to disabled ministers and their families." They recommended its reference to a Special *Committee.*

The report was adopted, and it was referred to Hon. Joseph Allison, Richard L. Seeley, and Frederick Starr.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented their annual report. It was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the attendance of Rev. Silas Aiken, D. D., the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, and his name was added to the Roll.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions.

Pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioner was reported, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Mr. Jonathan Lord, Elder, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee.

Rev. Charles W. Clapp, the Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, and Rev. Silas Aiken, D. D., the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, addressed the Assembly.

The Moderator responded in a brief address.

It was unanimously *Resolved*, That the Assembly has heard with great pleasure the remarks, reports, and appeals of these beloved brethren, in reference to the affectionate and fraternal feelings of [450] them and their constituents toward us and our Church; that our brethren of this body reciprocate as heartily all that they have so nobly addressed to us; that we all desire the perpetuity and increase, in Christ our glorious and common Lord, of our mutual confidence and correspondence; that the Assembly salutes our brethren, thus represented, in the Lord, praying his grace, mercy, and peace to be multiplied to them and us for ever, to his own glory.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented their report. It was accepted, and put upon the docket.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The connection of the Presbyterian Church with the past history of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions furnishes cause to this General Assembly for satisfaction and joy. The foreign missionary work as conducted by the Board, being an integral part of our own benevolent operations, the Assembly cannot but rejoice, in view of the successes with which the Head of the Church has crowned its labors. The joy of the Board in this respect is the joy of the General Assembly, and of our whole Church.

Neither can this Assembly contemplate, without deep concern, the present financial embarrassments of the Board as lately presented to our churches in the statement of its Prudential Committee, and as repeated to this Assembly during its present sessions, in the report of our Permanent Committee; as well as in the address before this body of the Rev. George W. Wood, D. D., one of the General Secretaries of the Board. The cares and embarrassments of the Board, no less than its joys, are those of the Presbyterian Church.

Convinced that to send out the light of the Gospel to heathen nations is a work of paramount obligation for the Christian Church; that the successes already secured in the mission field can only be sustained by continued and even augmented labors; and that the late dealings of Providence with the nations call upon Christians to devote themselves to the cultivation of this noble work with a greater energy, a broader liberality, a larger spirit of enterprise, and a higher consecration; convinced, also, that a considerable portion of our branch of the Church has neglected, or at least overlooked, this grave responsibility; therefore— [451]

Resolved, 1. That the duty of sending the Gospel to the heathen is incumbent upon all Christians, and that to disregard this work is, in the judgment of this General Assembly, to break the law of Christ as set forth in the New Testament: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

2. That the General Assembly observes, with deep regret and even shame, that 852 of our churches, embracing a membership of 43,720, are reported in our Minutes as contributing nothing whatever to the cause of Foreign Missions; and would hereby urge upon these churches, (though it be at first only by small contributions,) to remove from our venerable Church the stain thus inflicted upon its evangelical character.

3. That, in view of the present embarrassments of the Board—induced by the political and financial crisis which is now upon our country—the Assembly earnestly exhorts all the members of our churches and congregations, without exception, to "come up to the help of the Lord," in this work of Christianizing the nations, with a loyalty to Christ, not less earnest and devoted, than that which has been so happily manifested in sustaining our Government during the present national crisis; and, even in this time of adversity, to devise liberal things, meeting the emergency of the Board in the spirit of

sacrifice, as the only mode by which we may avoid further retrenchments of foreign missionary labor, and consequent damage to the kingdom of the Redeemer.

The term of office of the following members of the Committee expires at the present time: Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Rev. John McLeod. The Committee recommend that they be re-elected to serve for three years; and that the vacancy occasioned by the decease of the Hon. John L. Mason be filled, for the unexpired term of one year, by the election of Mr. Thos. Bond of New York.

It was made the first order for to-morrow, to hear the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., president of Hamilton College, with reference to that institution.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions; which was continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [452]

Thursday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolved, That the Assembly learn, with sincere gratification, of the recent action of the American Bible Society for the supply of every soldier of our army with a copy of the Word of God; and of the timely and liberal appropriation of ten thousand dollars by the American Tract Society, at its recent anniversary, for furnishing our army and navy with religious publications, suited to meet the temptations, trials, and exposures of camp-life, and cordially commend these objects to the favorable consideration and co-operation of the churches, and especially of the ministry that serve them.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Hon. James A. Bell, of the Presbytery of Watertown, Mr. Reuben S. Ragan, of the Presbytery of Green Castle, and Mr. John C. Robb, of the Presbytery of Pennsylvania.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee upon Church Extension, on the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, having examined the documents referred to them, and considered the subjects to which they relate, respectfully report on the Church Erection Fund.

The report of the Trustees appears to your Committee to furnish gratifying evidence, that that sacred Fund is faithfully administered, according to the principles on which it was originally constituted, and which have been sanctioned by successive Assemblies until this time.

Two memorials have been referred to this Committee; one from the Presbytery of Iowa City, asking for relief to their churches from the obligation to pay interest on their indebtedness to this fund; and one from the Presbyterian church in Omaha City, asking for a larger appropriation than the established rules allow; also a letter from Rev. D. Howe Allen. D. D., asking for indulgence to the German Presbyterian church in Cincinnati, in respect to interest on their debt.

The Committee deeply sympathize with the memorialists, but cannot recommend to the Assembly any alteration of the plan, which has been so decidedly approved by successive Assemblies; which seems to us to secure, in as great a degree as is attainable, the purposes of the Fund; and the stability of which is essential to that confidence of the benevolent, which will secure the permanence and increase of the Fund. We recommend that the Trustees extend to the [453] churches, whose necessitous circumstances are represented by the memorialists, all the indulgence which is consistent with the rules, and we earnestly commend the church in Omaha City to the favorable consideration of our churches, as a special instance, in which timely assistance in erecting a house of worship may be of incalculable service to the cause of Christ.

We further recommend, that the Trustees shall cause a circular letter to be prepared and sent to the churches, explaining the reasons why the changes which have been asked for cannot safely, or justly, be made. The Committee are confident, from their own experience in listening to explanations from the Trustees, that explanations alone are needed to give satisfaction to the churches.

The Committee recommend the following apportionment to the several Synods, for the ensuing year:

Albany,	2	per cent.	Ohio,	5	per cent.
Alta California,	3	“	Onondaga,	3	“
Cincinnati,	3	“	Pennsylvania,	5	“
Genesee,	3	“	Peoria,	7	“
Geneva,	3	“	Susquehanna,	2	“
Illinois,	10	“	Tennessee,	.5	“
Indiana,	5	“	Utica,	3	“
Iowa,	12	“	Virginia,	1	“
Michigan,	9	“	Wabash,	4	“
Minnesota,	5	“	W. Pennsylvania,	3	“
Mississippi,	.5	“	W. Reserve,	4	“
Missouri,	5	“	W. Tennessee,	1	“
N. Y. and N. J.,	3	“	Wisconsin,	6	“

The term of office of the following Trustees expires at this time: Messrs. Anthony P. Halsey, William E. Dodge, and Walter S. Griffith.

The providential circumstances of Mr. Halsey rendering it inconvenient for him to continue the valuable service which he has heretofore rendered, we recommend, that Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., be elected in his place, and that Messrs. William E. Dodge and Walter S. Griffith be re-elected for the term of three years.

We recommend that Messrs. Christopher R. Robert and James B. Pinneo, and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, be the *Auditing Committee* for the ensuing year.

We recommend that the annual report of the Trustees be approved, and that extracts from it as usual be printed in the Minutes of the General Assembly; also, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the Trustees for their laborious services.

Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., addressed the Assembly with reference to Hamilton College. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the subject of the address be referred to the Standing Committee on Education, with instructions to report a minute [454] with respect to those Colleges and Theological Seminaries in which our Church is specially interested.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on the same subject, presented their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

Rev. Silas Aiken, D. D., the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, took leave of the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., principal; and Rev. George C. Noyes, alternate.

2. *The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., principal; and Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., alternate.

3. *The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., principal; and Rev. D. Hopkins Emerson, alternate.

4. *The General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., principal; and Rev. Christopher M. Nickels, D. D., alternate.

5. *The General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, principal; and Rev. William S. Leavitt, alternate.

6. *The General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Horace Eaton, principal; and Rev. Eber M. Rollo, alternate.

7. *The General Conference of Maine*—Rev. Benjamin Graves, principal; and Rev. James Hoyt, alternate.

8. *The General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Andrew J. Fennell, principal; and Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, alternate.

9. *The Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Gustavus L. Foster, principal; and Rev. Calvin Clark, alternate.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented their report, which was accepted and put upon the docket.

The Judicial Committee reported that no papers had been put into their hands, and requested to be discharged. The report was accepted and the request granted.

Rev. David Murdock, D. D., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, for the year 1860, presented his report. It was accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [455]

Thursday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of the ordinance. After which, Rev. George W. Wood, D. D., was recognized as a Delegate from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and addressed the Assembly.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly, with reference to a Presbyterial Quorum, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly of 1860, in reviewing the Records of the Synod of Ohio, reserved its judgment "of the action on pages 226–7, relative to a Presbyterial Quorum and similar matters," but referred the whole subject to a Special Committee, consisting of Rev. John J. Atterbury, Rev. Conway P. Wing, and Mr. Edward Wells, to report to the next General Assembly. (See the Minutes of 1860, page 239.*)

* Reprint, p. 66.

The Committee to whom such reference was made respectfully submit the following report:

At the close of the last Assembly, the Clerk put into their hands a paper, which was supposed to contain all the materials necessary for their consideration of the subject. But, on inspecting it subsequently, with a view to a report, it was found to furnish merely an Overture, marked, "Overture No. 4, on page 226 of the Records of the Synod of Ohio;" being the occasion and the basis of the action of the Synod submitted to the Committee; but it did not furnish "the action" itself. The Committee, by their Chairman, addressed the Stated Clerk of the Synod of Ohio by mail, requesting him to furnish them a transcript of so much of the Records as would show their action on the Overture. To this application they have received no reply; nor have they been able otherwise to obtain the desired information.

The Committee, however, supposing that the material thing for them was to prepare a proper answer to the Overture itself, have carefully considered the several important constitutional questions involved, without any reference to "the action" had thereon by the Synod of Ohio.

The Overture is presented in three several branches, and is in the following words, namely:

"1st. Has any number of members of a Presbytery less than a quorum for the transaction of business, as mentioned in the 'Form of Government,' Chap. X., sec. 7, authority to transact any business, except to adjourn? Have they authority to receive members into the Presbytery, to send Delegates to the General Assembly, etc.?

"2d. And where members, received into the Presbytery by a number less than a quorum, take up charges on 'common fame' against a minister of the Gospel belonging to such Presbytery, is a trial, [456] founded on charges so taken up, authorized by our 'Book of Discipline'?

"3d. Is a Presbytery duly organized, when the Moderator and Temporary Clerk are ministers, who have not been admitted into the Presbytery by a quorum for the transaction of business? And is any business transacted by a Presbytery so organized constitutional, especially the trial of a minister of the Gospel"?

The Committee are unanimous and unhesitating in the following views, presented under the several branches of the Overture in their order:

AS TO THE FIRST BRANCH OF THE OVERTURE:

The law of a quorum is not a mere rule of procedure, a provision of order, but a matter respecting the very being of the judicatory. Any number of members less than the constitutional quorum do not make a judicatory, and are not competent to any organic act. Nor can they, by associating others with themselves, under the pretense or form of receiving them as members of the judicatory, make a constitutional quorum. Their acts are simply null and void. *Ex nihilo nihil fit.* This statement applies to every judicatory in the series from the church session to the General Assembly.

Any number of persons less than "three ministers and as many elders as may be present belonging to the Presbytery," do not constitute a Presbytery, and are not competent to do a presbyterial act. Of course they have not "authority to receive members into the Presbytery," nor "to send delegates to the General Assembly." Ministers received by them do not thereby become members of the Presbytery, and, if they assume to act as such, they are simply aliens and intruders. Commissioners sent by them to the General Assembly should not be allowed to sit, when the facts of their appointment are understood.

The doings of such a meeting should not have a place on the Records.

But if the Stated Clerk records them, the Presbytery itself, when constitutionally organized, should take action to adopt or disaffirm them; and, in failure of this, the Synod, under its power of review and control, should, on inspection of the Records, notice the unconstitutional proceedings, and require the Presbytery to make the necessary correction.

Were it necessary to confirm these positions, it would be sufficient to refer to the decision of the General Assembly (Digest, p. 105) in regard to a Quorum of Sessions, to the effect, that what is "necessary to constitute a quorum," is "necessary to form a session;" and to the deliverance of the Assembly of 1860, (see Minutes, pp. 260, 261,)* on an Overture respecting certain disorderly proceedings of a church, in which the principle is involved and affirmed, that an "unconstitutional act" is "utterly null and void;" and that, "being void," it "works no effect."

As to the Second Branch of the Overture:

"Taking up charges" is equivalent to "entering process," or "commencing process." [457] (Cf. "Book of Discipline," Chap. III., sec. 5, with Chap. V., secs. 2 and 5.) It is the beginning, or first formal step, of a judicial proceeding; and is of course the act of the judicatory. Now, all the provisions of the "Book of Discipline," in relation to the trial of persons subject to the jurisdiction of a judicatory, presuppose and assume, that "the charges have been taken up," as well as that every subsequent step of the proceedings has been had by the judicatory itself. Hence the "Book of Discipline" does not "authorize" the trial of a minister of the Gospel by his Presbytery, "on charges taken up" by individuals usurping its prerogatives, but only on charges taken up by itself.

The "Book of Discipline," however, prescribes (Chap. VII., secs. 1 and 4) that "no judicial decision of a judicatory shall be reversed, unless it be regularly brought up by appeal or complaint."

The trial of a minister, under the circumstances proposed in the Overture, must be regarded as any other trial, where there has been informality or irregularity in the citation, or other preliminary stages of the process. The trial, with the judgment based upon it, must be respected, until the Synod, as the superior judicatory, shall judge how far the irregularity vitiates the proceedings, and defeats the ends of justice, and shall annul or confirm the same.

As to the Third Branch of the Overture:

The Moderator and Clerk are ministerial officers of the judicatory. In respect of their office, they are servants merely, and not members of the body.

Of the Clerk, this would seem to be unquestionably true. The Constitution knows nothing of the Temporary Clerk as distinguished from the Stated Clerk. As far as any provision of the "Book" is involved, it is plain that a judicatory may select any convenient person, though not a member, to record its transactions, and discharge all other duties pertaining to a clerk. For the part of those duties usually devolved upon the Temporory Clerk, we believe, it is no unfrequent thing for a Presbytery to employ a licentiate, or other person not a member of the body.

Nor does the Constitution explicitly, at least, require the Moderator to be chosen from the members of the judicatory. It does indeed prescribe (Chap. XIX., sec. 2) that, in a certain contingency, "he shall possess the casting vote." And as voting is the act of a member, the implication seems to offer itself, that the Moderator himself must be a member. But against this implication some other facts of the Constitution may be cited. Thus, ("Form of Government," Chap. IX., sec. 3,) there is the provision for inviting, in

* Reprint, p. 83.

certain contingencies, a minister to moderate the church session, who is not the pastor of the church, and of course not a member of the session; while the general law of "Moderators" (Chap. XIX.) gives him the casting vote. Then, again, the "Form of Government" (Chap. XII., sec. 7) prescribes, concerning the General Assembly, that "the Moderator of the last Assembly, if present, or, in case of his absence, some other minister, shall preside, until a new Moderator be chosen." Under this [458] provision, it is not necessary that the minister called to preside in the Assembly, should himself be in commission. (Digest, p. 173.) It may be said, that this is merely for organization. True. But the whole principle seems to be involved. For the time being, one, not a member of the Assembly, is its Moderator, and as such has a casting vote on the numberless issues that may be raised between the formation of the roll and the choice of a new Moderator. And in the former case, pertaining to church sessions, no such limitation for mere organization exists. Hence these two points are clearly recognized: 1st. That it is not essential to the idea of a Moderator that he be a member; 2d. That the privilege of a casting vote does not necessarily imply membership.

In the United States Senate we have an instance of the Moderator being foreign to the body over which he presides. By the Constitution of the United States, the Senate "shall be composed of two Senators from each State," etc. The Senators make the whole body; and yet, by the same instrument, "the Vice-President of the United States shall be President of the Senate," with a casting vote. In the State of New York (as perhaps in other States) the Speaker of the Assembly may have two votes, one as a member of the body, and the casting vote besides; a fact which rebuts the supposition that the casting vote is an incident of membership.

All this is urged, without respect to the immemorial usage of our church courts, but solely in view of what is essential by the provisions of the written Constitution and the nature of the subject.

If these suggestions are sound, then a Presbytery in the position proposed by the Overture is "duly organized," and every business done by it is constitutional—*quoad hoc.*

2. But, if it be not admitted that the Constitution allows a Presbytery to choose for its Moderator one foreign to its body, it may still be said, the selection of officers is a matter relating not to the *being* of the judicatory, (like the presence of a quorum,) but to its *form* and order merely. An irregularity here does not nullify the body. It is still a judicatory, with all the essential elements, and competent for business. Its business may be constitutional, though done in an unconstitutional way, and liable to correction by a superior judicatory.

3. Besides, though the persons chosen officers "are ministers who have not been admitted into the Presbytery by a quorum," or (which is its meaning) have been received by a number less than a quorum, and are not thereby constitutionally members, it would still be open to the inference, that the Presbytery, (with a constitutional quorum,) in choosing such persons to office, thereby virtually affirmed and adopted the previous unconstitutional act, by which they were received into the body, made it their own, and made it good.

Hence, in every view, the Committee are clearly of the opinion that, in the case proposed in the third branch of the Overture, the answer should be, that the Presbytery is "duly (that is, validly) organized," and competent to any business, including the trial of a minister of the Gospel.

Still, it is obvious, that the presence in the Presbytery of persons [459] received as members by any number less than a quorum, and in virtue thereof claiming to exercise the privilege of members, (whether chosen to office or not,) may work great wrong and vexation, by overruling the voice of the majority of the lawful members of the judicatory. And every member has the constitutional right, in some appropriate way, to carry any grievance from this source to the notice of the Synod for correction. We would, therefore, qualify the above answer to this branch of the Overture, by adding that, however the acts of a Presbytery so organized may be irregular, they are not necessarily void and null, (as where there is the want of a quorum,) but voidable only in the judgment of the superior judicatory, when brought before it in a constitutional way.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Jacob Johnson, Smith Griffith, Joseph Mills, Adam C. Eckfeldt, Daniel Beebe, Timothy Lawrence, and J. Milton Smith.

The Assembly resumed, and continued until the time of adjournment, the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 24th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Mileage Committee reported as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully beg leave to report the following statements and recommendations:

1st. That 55 Presbyteries have complied with the regulations of the Assembly, and have paid the full amount of their assessments toward the expenses of the Assembly, at the rate of five cents for each communicant in their respective Presbyteries, viz.: [460]

Catskill, Pennsylvania, Cayuga, Hudson, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Newark, Philadelphia, 3d, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Cold Water, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Trumbull, Maumee, Athens, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, St. Joseph, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Iowa City, Keokuk, Dubuque, Iowa Valley, Dakota, Minnesota, Winona, Sierra Nevada, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, and Kansas.

2d. That 35 Presbyteries have contributed to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of sixty cents or more for each of their ministers, viz.:

Troy, Albany, Columbia, Watertown, Utica, Geneva, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, Lyons, Onondaga, Tioga, Otsego, Chenango, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Rochester, Genesee, Niagara, North River, Brooklyn, Rockaway, Montrose, Philadelphia, 4th, Meadville, Detroit, Monroe, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, Huron, Cleveland, Pataskala, Franklin, and Logansport.

3d. That 14 Presbyteries have not contributed anything towards the expenses of the General Assembly, viz.:

Champlain, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Cortland, Genesee Valley, Wilmington, District of Columbia, Marshall, Grand River, Portage, Elyria, Chariton, San Francisco, and San José.

4th. The amount of money received by your Committee from the various Presbyteries is........................ $4126.25

5th. The amount of bills presented and audited by your Committee for mileage and expenses is................. 3783.25

Leaving a balance, after paying all the bills presented and audited for mileage and expenses, of................ 343.00

Your Committee would therefore recommend that the bills for mileage and necessary expenses, as audited, be paid in full; and the balance of three hundred and forty-three dollars ($343) be paid to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, to be applied to the Contingent Fund.

6th. Your Committee would recommend that those Presbyteries which have not contributed to the funds of the Assembly, be required to pay to the Stated Clerk sixty cents for each of the ministers in their respective Presbyteries.

7th. While many of the Presbyteries respond cheerfully to the call of the General Assembly for funds to meet the necessary expenses, it is a matter of deep regret, that so many of our able Presbyteries omit, or neglect, to furnish the amount requisite to meet the highly satisfactory plan adopted by the Assembly.

8th. Your Committee recommend that the Stated Clerk be instructed, to prepare suitable and convenient printed blanks for the bills of expenses of Commissioners to the General Assembly, and for their receipts, to be furnished to the Mileage Committee, in order to systematize and facilitate their labors.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the [461] Special Committee on Home Missions. The report was again referred to a Special *Committee* of three, consisting of Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., and Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to the Rev. Messrs. John Jenkins, D. D., Claudius B. Lord, Theodore L. Cuyler, George Freeman, John L. Jones, George C. Noyes, and George N. Boardman. And to Messrs. Walter H. Conklin, Sylvanus Cone, Jacob Fritts, Aaron Rumsey, David Cushman, Henry W. Jones, Benjamin W. Raymond, Frederick Starr, Albert N. Brown, James R. Stillman, and Martin Heydenburk.

Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., secretary of the American and Foreign Christian Union, addressed the Assembly with reference to that institution.

Rev. Russell S. Cook addressed the Assembly with reference to the New York Sabbath Committee, and Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Theodore S. Brown, and Mr. John Clouds, were appointed a *Committee to prepare a minute* on this subject.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was accepted and put upon the docket.

The Special Committee on the report of the Committee of the last Assembly on Home Missions, presented their report. Pending its discussion, the time of adjournment arrived.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Missouri, Geneva, Utica, Onondaga, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Peoria, Iowa, Albany, Susquehanna, and Indiana, were presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written.

The reports were severally adopted. [462]

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Wabash reported, that the Records be approved, with the following exception: "They have not been presented to the Assembly since 1859."

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Minnesota reported, that they be approved, with the following exception, viz.: "That the Narrative on the State of Religion is not recorded."

The report was adopted.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee on Publication. The report, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication respectfully report to the Assembly as follows:

The procurement of a religious literature, suited to the times, to the wants of the Church, to the condition of the country, to our denomination; at once various and useful, doctrinal and practical, polemical, and hortatory; sometimes philosophical, sometimes hermeneutical; sometimes adapted to babes, as at other times to men and scholars; illustrating truth, establishing faith, auxiliary to the ministry, the system of Sabbath-school instruction, and all the varieties of human condition; a literature authentic, homogeneous, reliable, as it attracts the confidence of all our people, as it receives the sanction, direct or indirect, of our highest judicatory, and coincides with the character of our ecclesiastical ministrations; such a literature is palpably a grand desideratum to the kingdom, for which we pray and labor that it may come in all our nation and in all the earth. The press is a mighty arm of influence; and we must use and sanctify it in the cause of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We are, however, only beginning to do and to act in this comparatively modern and very excellent way.

Our Presbyterian Publication Committee give evidence that they have been assiduous, and, we trust, faithful and fruitful, in our last presbyterial year. Reports and other documents, which will be found in the Appendix to our Minutes for 1861, will illustrate the assertion; and we hope they will be read by us all.

The term of service of Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. George F. Wiswell, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., and Mr. F. L. Bodine, expiring at this time, their re-election is recommended; also the re-election of five Trustees of the Presbyterian House, namely, Mr. John C. Farr, Charles

S. Wurts, M. D., Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, and Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D.

The Committee also recommend the approval of the action of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, in relation to the donation of Peter Douglas, Esq., and the legacy of Mrs. Elizabeth Bartlette.

We also commend to the ministers and the churches of our communion, to correspond with this Committee, and assist their efforts, in the spirit of unity, confidence, and mutual benefit; in the ways suggested so properly in its report in the Appendix; as resulting good, in more than full compensation through all our bounds, is [463] alone anticipated as the natural fruit. Your Committee, from perusing the documents subjected to their revisionary care, are happy to record more than mere approbation, both of the principles and the achievements of this organ of publication. Not here to attempt a review in detail of what has been done the past year deserving laudation, there is one publication that ought to be specified—"The New Digest of the Acts and the Deliverances of the General Assembly"—as the highest judicatory of our Church since its beginning, now verging high toward the terminus of its second century in this world of the West; though our Assembly, as fully organized, beginning the same year with the national Constitution and the administration of Washington, as President of the United States of America, is now, in progress, exactly seventy-three years old.

That Digest we consider as a treasure of value incomparable. Any Presbyterian, reading and digesting its contents, may well glory in its noble, scriptural, apostolic character, from the beginning; a thesaurus of the authentic pandects of the kingdom; a mass of practical and judicial wisdom, not more useful to their sons than honorary to our sires; in all, favoring nobly the ends of unity, order, law, duty, right, truth, grace, loyalty, impartiality, and constitutional yet universal freedom, in church and in nation! For the rest, we say, read it, own it, and, "dying, mention it within your wills, bequeathing it as a rich legacy to your issue." Every judicatory ought to procure a copy; every minister should own one; every respectable library should possess one, placed near the dictionary of our language and the peerless volume of our faith.

In conclusion, we say, let all the parts of our now mature, homogeneous, love-pervaded commonwealth of Israel, cohere, combine; honoring all the members, and especially those nearest our own places and spheres of accountable action, in the Presbyterian Church of our cordial and our worthy preference. Let us be national, co-operative, principled, in all we do; and hope in our God to do greater and greater things than these. The time has come when our excellent system, in all its parts one magnificent whole—*e pluribus unum*—must evince its unity, its strength, its vocation, in doing good. Our Sabbath-school literature, our entire and excellent Psalmody, and other excellent books, tracts, and documents, can there be best obtained, and thence diffused with eminent advantage in every part of our grounds. And it is hoped, and recommended to our Publication Committee, to establish depositories, or, in conjunction with our Presbyteries, to authorize and assist others to establish them, in every more distant section of our Church; so making them easily accessible to all, as they are eminently cheap and practical, and giving to all our people what, we trust, they will soon learn to appreciate and love. Our common obligations to the self-denying, able, generous, and enterprising efforts for the common good of our nation and our denomination, which have distinguished our brethren in Philadelphia, claim our grateful recognition and our cordial thanks; especially, *ab uno disce omnes*, for that noble structure, the Presbyterian House, with [464] its furniture, its fitness, its large grounds, its beautiful site, and its promise of permanent usefulness.

After due consideration, we have agreed to designate for preacher on this subject, at the Assembly of 1862, the Rev. Charles Hawley, of Auburn, N. Y., and as his alternate, the Rev. John W. Hall, D. D., of Oxford, Ohio.

In view of the turbulence and the menace of our times, the drear inauguration of civil war, and the prospect of its ravages of physical and moral desolation in our country,

Resolved, 1. That we acknowledge the agency and the just judgments of our God in all this, and would humble ourselves before him, with the prayer,—O Lord! in wrath remember mercy; spare thy people, and restore peace in all our borders.

Resolved, 2. That Friday, June 28th, be appointed, in these national and solemn relations, as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer before God, to confess our sins, to supplicate his mercy and gracious return to us, almighty to save; and especially that he would prepare the members of both houses of Congress, so soon to convene, in this crisis of our affairs for all their duties, with wisdom, piety, and patriotic sincerity of devotion to the good of our one great nation; and that he would bless our President and his Cabinet, our army and our navy, and order all the operations of this new and dreadful war, for his own glory, the prosperity of his own Zion, and the ultimate good of our country for this and all coming ages.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute respecting Ingham University, presented the following report:

The Assembly regards with lively interest the establishment and maintenance of Seminaries for young ladies, in which they may attain a liberal and elegant intellectual culture, combined with careful religious instruction, and under positive Christian influences.

The Assembly recognizes, in respect to this Seminary at Le Roy, N. Y., this peculiarity;—that it is the only Seminary for young ladies, the property of which is distinctly and inalienably the property of our Church;—and expresses its grateful appreciation of the wisdom and liberality of the Christian ladies who have given this institution to the entire and permanent control of thoroughly Christian men; as also of the earnest and generous purpose of its Chancellor and Council to make increasingly liberal provisions for the education of the daughters of ministers of the Gospel, who are unable to pay the customary expenses of unendowed female Seminaries.

The Assembly also expresses the earnest hope, that benevolent Christian men of the churches will so appreciate the importance of securing the unembarrassed success of this excellent institution, as to do themselves the honor, and Christ the service, of providing for the speedy liquidation of the debt which now impedes and cripples it, and thus, not only place this valuable property unencumbered in the hands of the Church, as a beautiful and fully-released possession of the Church's Lord, but also open before the institution [465] an endless career of usefulness in behalf of the daughters of the household of faith, and the interests of the kingdom of Christ.

Messrs. William E. Dodge, Walter S. Griffith, and Jesse W. Benedict, were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly was invited by Mrs. Judge Spencer to a reception at her house this evening. The invitation was unanimously accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly ordered to be returned to Mrs. Spencer.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture on the subject of Systematic Benevolence, with the following answer:

Resolved, 1. That Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., and Rev. Charles Hawley, be a *Committee* to consider the whole subject of *Systematic Benevolence*, and report to the next General Assembly a plan to be recommended to the churches in carrying on their benevolent operations; and that Presbyteries, or individuals, desiring to lay any propositions on that subject before the General Assembly, be directed to communicate them to said Committee.

Resolved. 2. That, for the coming year, each church connected with the Assembly be urgently requested, to make a contribution to the very important causes of Education for the Ministry, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Publication, as they are conducted by the Assembly; such collection, small or large; and that they make report of the respective amounts to their Presbytery at the stated meeting next preceding that of the General Assembly.

The report was adopted.

Communications were received from our Theological Seminaries: from Lane Seminary, through the General Secretary of the Assembly's Committee on Education; from Auburn Theological Seminary, through Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D.; and from the Theological Department of Lind University, through Rev. Yates Hickey.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, namely, the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions, and the Constitution contained in the report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [466]

Monday, May 27th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute with reference to the New York Sabbath Committee, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly have heard, with deep interest, the statements of the Rev. Russell S. Cook, the secretary of the New York Sabbath Committee, in regard to its plans and operations; and that they rejoice in the favor of Divine Providence, which has so evidently attended its well-devised and energetic movements.

Resolved, 2. That we commend anew the cause of the Sabbath to the churches under our care, as at all times worthy of a most hearty and earnest support, and as calling, in the present circumstances of the country, for special vigilance and fidelity. We would particularly urge it upon them, that fervent prayer be offered, and all possible care be taken, that, even in troublous times, the precious day of the Lord be duly honored.

Resolved, 3. That it be recommended to our churches to co-operate with the New York Sabbath Committee, in their praiseworthy designs, by any such expressions of sympathy or forms of effort as, in their several localities, may seem to them appropriate.

The Assembly adopted, with some amendments, the resolutions contained in the report of the Special Committee on Home Missions.

The Constitution and resolutions are as follows:

CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF HOME MISSIONS.

I. The General Assembly, in accordance with the obvious indications of Divine Providence, and agreeably to the Constitution of the Church, (Form of Gov., Chap. XVIII.,) assumes the responsibility of conducting the work of Home Missions within its bounds.

II. To this end, the Assembly hereby institutes a Permanent Committee, to be known as the "Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions," to be located in the city of New York; to consist of fifteen members; of whom not more than eight shall be ministers of the Gospel; to be arranged in the first instance into three classes, to serve one, two, and three years respectively, and their successors to serve for three years; to be appointed by the Assembly; five of them to be a quorum for ordinary business, and a majority for the election of officers and the determination of their salaries.

III. The Committee shall elect, annually, a General Secretary or Secretaries, a Treasurer, and such other officers and agents as may be requisite for the successful prosecution of the work. They shall have power to fill, until the meeting of the next Assembly, their own vacancies; to appoint their own meetings; to determine the specific duties of their officers; and make their own by-laws, subject to the revision of the Assembly.

IV. They shall undertake the work of aiding such congregations as [467] are unable to support, in whole or in part, the stated preaching of the Gospel; and of sending itinerating or resident missionaries to the destitute in our own land. And, as it is the design of the General Assembly, not to supersede the different ecclesiastical bodies connected with it, but to encourage and give unity and efficiency to their action, so as to bring out the full adaptation and force of the Presbyterian system in Home Missions, the Presbyteries are recommended to appoint Standing Committees on Home Missions;—to explore their destitutions; to select, and, if they think expedient, to nominate missionaries for their own field; to recommend the amount of their compensation; to secure an annual contribution to the cause from each of their churches; to be a medium of communication between the Presbytery and the Assembly's Committee; and to furnish annually to this Committee, on or before the 15th of April, a detailed statement of the Home Missionary work within their bounds.

V. The Committee shall appoint and commission the missionaries, taking care to appoint no one unacceptable to the Presbytery within whose bounds he is to labor; they shall give them all needful instructions as to the place and character of their labors, securing as far as practicable and regarding the advice and indorsement of the Presbytery, as to the selection and location of laborers and their remuneration; they shall make the necessary appropriations to agents, exploring and itinerating missionaries, and congregations; it being understood, that no appropriation shall be made to any congregation, whose application is not endorsed by the Presbytery with which such congregation stands connected, or by the Committee of Presbytery; and shall take measures to secure the effective co-operation of the Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, in the work of exploration, in securing missionaries, and in obtaining funds for the common treasury.

They shall keep a faithful record of their proceedings, and make an annual report of all their doings to the General Assembly.

VI. The Treasurer shall take charge of the moneys contributed to the cause; shall disburse them only upon the duly certified order of the Committee; to whom he shall make report of the state of the treasury at such times as they shall direct; and give bonds annually for the faithful discharge of his trusts, to such an amount as the Committee may determine.

Resolutions on the Home Missionary Work.

Resolved, 1. That the condition of the Home Missionary work throughout the Church, at the present time, calls for a reconsideration and re-adjustment of many of its arrangements, so as to give it, in its new relations, the greatest stability and efficiency.

Resolved, 2. That the Presbyteries should carefully weigh the relative claims of old organizations and of new enterprises, that one may not be sacrificed for the other; that, as to the former, they should ascertain if any ought to be discontinued; if several may not be united under one missionary; what may be done to stimulate them to greater efforts for self-support; and if appropriations to decidedly unpromising ones should not be curtailed; and, as to the latter, [468] they should only be undertaken where the providential indications point out their necessity, and never to establish denominational interests where there is really no call nor room for them; the general principle being, that we should hold only that which is worth holding, and advance no farther than can be done effectively.

Resolved, 3. That applications from the Presbyteries should state all the facts which the Committee should know, in order to form a correct judgment in the case; such as—the location of the Church; its positive and relative, its present and prospective importance; its age, numbers, pecuniary ability, necessities; length of time during which it has been receiving assistance; the prospect of its ceasing to need assistance, etc., etc. And that no church should be recommended for an appropriation, which does not make all reasonable exertions to sustain the preaching of the Gospel; make an annual contribution to the general treasury; and satisfy the Presbytery that it has complied with its engagements to its minister.

Resolved, 4. That appropriations should be made with reference to the necessities and prospects of congregations, rather than in view of the wants of missionaries; the support of the ministry being regarded chiefly as a means of building up the Church.

Resolved, 5. That, as the funds of the Church must be limited, in comparison with the very extensive field to be supplied, a careful economy should be regarded in all appropriations, and strenuous efforts should be made to increase the contributions to the general treasury from year to year.

Resolved, 6. That, in planting new churches, the unity of the body of Christ should be so recognized, that where another denomination, of like general faith and order, is in possession of a field, and is doing all that may be fairly needed to supply it with the Gospel, presently or prospectively, missionaries should not be sent to that field, but to more destitute regions.

Resolved, 7. That itinerating missionary labor should be employed, wherever the wants of any particular region may demand it, and the funds at the disposal of the Committee will allow; and that great care should be taken to gather up and perpetuate the results of such itinerancies, so that the energies and means of the Church may not be wasted in fruitless experiments.

Resolved, 8. That the Committee on Church Extension, established in 1855, having satisfactorily fulfilled its course, as a supplementary arrangement, and its separate continuance being rendered unnecessary by the establishment of the "Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions," it shall be merged into that Committee, which is declared to be the legal successor to all its responsibilities, rights, and claims; and that, when the "Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions" becomes organized, the funds, records, claims, and responsibilities of said Church Extension Committee shall be transferred to that Committee.

Resolved, 9. That the Permanent Committee on Home Missions, established in 1858, be discontinued.

Resolved, 10. That the General Assembly regards it as of the utmost [469] importance, that a uniform Presbyterian system should be adopted as soon and as far as practicable; and it earnestly recommends all its ecclesiastical bodies, acting in connection with other organizations, as soon as it can be done without sacrifice to existing interests, to conform themselves to the Assembly's plan.

Resolved, 11. That the "Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions" be directed to apply to the Legislature of the State of New York for an act of incorporation.

Resolved, 12. That the "Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions" be directed to hold its first meeting in the city of New York, on the 18th day of June next, and the Stated Clerk of the Assembly notify, in due season, the members, of the time and place of meeting.

Resolved, 13. That the Committee appoint a General Secretary, to be located in the city of New York; and that they be instructed to appoint an Associate Secretary, to reside in Philadelphia; and other Secretaries in such other places as they may find necessary.

Resolved, 14. That ten of the members of the Committee be located in and about New York, and five in and about Philadelphia.

The attendance of the Rev. Andrew Giffert Wylie, the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, was reported by the Committee on Commissions, and his name was added to the Roll.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to the Rev. Messrs. Charles Richards, Asa D. Smith, D. D., John B. Fowler, Cicero B. Stevens, Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., William J. Johnson, Asa Johnson, Lemuel Clark, Medad Pomeroy, Charles Merwin, Albert Bigelow, Joseph Willet, and Benjamin G. Riley; and to Messrs. John P. Osborne, Andrew M. Wing, Thomas Archer, George W. Allen, Jonathan Ford, Alexander H. Hicks, Edwin Pierce, Eli D. Catlin, Augustus P. Hascall, Charles H. Quinlan, Harvey J. Mann, John Clouds, James G. Redfield, James M. Hains, and James R. Sayre.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture on the subject of a week of special religious services, with the following answer:

Whereas, Protracted religious services have often been greatly blessed in deepening the work of grace in the hearts of Christians, and in awakening sinners and leading them to Christ; and

Whereas, A good impression created on a congregation in the [470] autumn often remains with it through the succeeding winter months; and

Whereas, God is pleased to regard union and concert in prayer; therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our pastors and churches, as far as practicable, to observe the first week in December as a season of special prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our congregations, and in special religious services calculated to edify the saints, and lead sinners to Christ.

Resolved, 2. That the Stated Clerk be instructed to give notice in the religious newspapers circulating in the Church, of the above recommendation of the Assembly.

The following were elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House:

Mr. John C. Farr, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, and Rev Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension upon the annual report of the Permanent Committee on the same subject. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

On the subject of Church Extension, the Committee report, that Overtures have been presented from the Presbyteries of Scioto, Troy, Schuyler, Dayton, Catskill, and Iowa City, and from the Synod of Peoria.

These Overtures illustrate the unanimity of our church judicatories in favor of having the General Assembly assume the responsibility of conducting our own Home Missionary work, as the Assembly has already resolved to do; and also in favor of giving the Assembly's Committee a name expressive of its functions, as having charge of our entire Home Missionary work. This Committee had agreed to recommend the name, "Presbyterian Home Mission Committee," as the form most conveniently written; but we cheerfully acquiesce in that which has been adopted, on the recommendation of another Committee.

Three Overtures express the desire that the Committee on Home Missions may be located in some prominent commercial city; and two of them designate the city of New York. One of them requests that there may be two General Secretaries, one to reside in New York and the other in Chicago.

The report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension exhibits labors and results which, in the existing circumstances, merit the emphatic commendation and grateful acknowledgment of the General Assembly.

The steady increase of donations to an agency, so much questioned and assailed, shows the intelligent and firm purpose of our people to do efficiently whatever work the providence of God at any time gives them; and now, when so manifestly Divine Providence calls us, as a Church, to undertake the Home Missionary work more broadly, and in a mode suited to our church organization and adapted to develop and apply all the energy of our Church, we may confide in the liberality of our people to furnish the needful resources. [471]

The Assembly having instituted "The Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions," it seems obvious that there will be no further need of a Church Extension Committee as a supplementary agency; and we concur in the recommendation of the Special Committee that it be discontinued. In doing so, we recommend that the General Assembly put on record their emphatic commendation of the fidelity, wisdom, and energy with which the Church Extension Committee have conducted this difficult and important church enterprise during the six years of its continuance.

The Treasurer's report being duly audited, and having been presented to the Assembly, we recommend its acceptance and approval.

Rev. Andrew G. Wylie, the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Rev. J. Geddes Craighead, Rev. Robert Adair, Rev. Augustus T. Norton, and Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., were appointed to nominate the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, and to fill the blank in the 12th resolution.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Committee report Overture No. 1, asking the General Assembly so to change the form of Statistical Reports, that churches will be required to report their membership actually resident, as resident members; and their absent membership as absent or non-resident members.

It also asks that the "capitation tax," levied to defray the expenses of Commissioners and the General Assembly, be assessed upon resident members only.

Believing that each church should be held responsible for the good character of its members, and also for their General Assembly tax, the Committee recommend that the request of the Overture be not granted.

The report was adopted.

The Committee report Overture No. 2: "Is a member of Presbytery, desirous of withdrawing connection with our Church to a foreign body at a distance, entitled to a letter of dismission and recommendation on demand, while occupying the position as pastor of one of our churches?"

The Committee report, that he is not thus entitled.

The report was adopted. [472]

The Committee report Overture No. 3: "Is it in accordance with the usages and principles of the Presbyterian Church to administer the rite of baptism to infants whose parents, once having connection with some evangelical church, now hold no such connection in their present place of residence?"

The Overture was referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., and Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, with instructions to report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported also Overture No. 4, on the subject of Statistics, with the statement, that they see no reason why there should be any change in the form now used for making the statistical reports of benevolent contributions of the churches.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Annual Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of the General Assembly presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom was referred the subject of Literary and Theological Institutions, presented the following minute for the approval of the Assembly:

Whereas, The Presbyterian Church has always taken high ground with reference to an educated clergy, resisting the temptation to introduce into her pulpits unskillful men, even when there was great destitution of preaching; and *whereas*, from the first establishing of the Church in this country, she made and sustained successful educational efforts, both literary and theological, thus vindicating her descent from the "preaching" Protestants of the Reformation; and *whereas*, our religion is the religion of a book inspired and authorized by God; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we have listened with gratification to the reports, oral and written, from Hamilton College, from Union, Auburn, Lane, and Blackburn Theological Seminaries, and from Lind University; and that, in view of the intimate relation of these institutions to the Presbyterian Church, and of the value of their reports to this body, we recommend that written reports be hereafter annually presented to the Assembly, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, 2. That, believing the connection between religion and sound learning to be vital, and regarding academies, colleges, and theological seminaries as conserving and promoting such learning, we enjoin upon all our churches to foster the spirit of education among their members, in such a way as to secure the increase of students in our higher institutions of learning, and also a more liberal endowment of said institutions.

Resolved, 3. That it be recommended to the Presbyteries and Synods of the Church, to encourage pious and promising young men, within their bounds, by the pledge of liberal aid, to enter upon a course of literary study with the Gospel ministry in view, holding up prominently the duty and dignity of the sacred office. [473]

Resolved, 4. That, inasmuch as, in the nature of things, the preachers of the Gospel come not largely from the wealthier classes, it be laid upon the conscience of the Church to give the more liberally and freely of their means to raise up a thoroughly educated clergy.

Resolved, 5. That, so far as it can be done, without infringing upon the chartered rights of Colleges, the study of the Word of God, both in the vernacular and the original languages, be recommended as a part of their curriculum.

The report was adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Overture of the Presbytery of Columbus, on the subject of raising a fund to be applied to the aid of disabled ministers and their families, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

They have taken the subject into careful consideration, and have been unable to devise a plan which they can, with any reasonable or proper confidence, recommend for adoption by the Assembly. Several religious bodies have tried the experiment of raising a fund for this purpose; among whom may be named the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Old School Presbyterian Church of this country, and the English Wesleyans of Great Britain. The proper sources of information, touching the several plans which have been adopted by these bodies, the relative success of each of them, and the details of the several systems which have for some years been under trial, your Committee have been unable to reach; and have, therefore, thought it best to recommend the appointment, by this General Assembly, of a Committee to consist of three persons, to report a plan of operations, to be laid before the next General Assembly, with a view to secure the end contemplated in the Overture, which your Committee regard as of great importance, and therefore worthy of the most careful and mature consideration.

Hon. Joseph Allison, Matthew W. Baldwin, Joseph H. Dulles, and Samuel C. Perkins, were appointed as this *Committee.*

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Committee on Education upon the annual report of the Permanent Committee on the same subject.

The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom was referred the report of the Assembly's Permanent Committee on that subject, beg leave respectfully to submit the following report:

The Assembly is aware that the chief subject which was designed to occupy the attention of the Standing Committee is the revised plan of Education, drawn up in December last, and submitted to the Presbyteries for their approval. To this subject the Committee have given the most patient consideration. They have carefully examined the answers of the various Presbyteries, so far as received; and they have listened to oral statements, from members of the Permanent Committee, and from representatives of existing local organizations at present prosecuting this work. [474]

The Committee have found the subject environed with peculiar and with somewhat formidable difficulties. From the facts presented to them, they have no reason to suppose that any plan which could be devised would command the instant approval of all sections of the Church. Yet the evidence before them compels the conclusion, that a large majority of Presbyteries will cordially accept the Plan, especially as modified by this Committee, in accordance with suggestions contained in the communications of several of the Presbyteries. The Committee, therefore, recommend to the General Assembly to pass the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Plan of Education herewith communicated be adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church; and that the Presbyteries be requested, as far as circumstances will permit, to conform their action to its provisions.

PLAN OF EDUCATION.

Whereas, The General Assembly has heretofore established the Permanent Committee on Education, by the adoption, on the 27th day of May, 1856, of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, 1. That a Committee of fifteen ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church, of whom five shall be laymen, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, to be called the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry; seven at least of whom shall reside in or near the city of New York, which shall be the seat of its operations. Five members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum, but, for the election of a Secretary of Education, or for action upon his salary, a majority shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

"*Resolved*, 2. This Committee, as thus constituted, shall divide itself into three equal classes, the first, second, and third, whose terms of office shall expire respectively in one, two, and three years. The General Assembly shall annually elect, after its first organization, five members of this Committee for three years, to fill such vacancies. It shall also fill any vacancy which may have occurred in the other classes. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in the interval between the sessions of two Assemblies for such an interval."

And, *whereas*, it has also secured, from the Legislature of the State of New York, an act of incorporation, which is as follows:

"AN ACT to Incorporate the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

"The people of the State of New York, as represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

"SECTION 1.—John J. Owen, Asa D. Smith, George L. Prentiss, William A. Booth, Joseph B. Sheffield, Jesse W. Benedict, Walter S. Griffith, Anson G. Phelps, William Hogarth, Jonathan F. Stearns, Henry Smith, Harvey Curtis, John Jenkins, William Darling, and [475] William Jessup, (designated for the purpose by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which met in Cleveland, Ohio, in May, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven,) and their successors in office, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of 'The Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America,' whose duty it shall be to superintend the whole cause of Education in behalf of the said General Assembly, as said General Assembly may from time to time direct; also to receive, take charge of, and disburse any property or funds, which, at any time, and from time to time, may be intrusted to said General Assembly, or said Permanent Committee, for Educational purposes.

"SECTION 2.—The said corporation shall possess the general powers, and be subject to the provisions contained in title three of chapter eighteen of the first part of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable and have not been repealed or modified.

"SECTION 3.—The management and disposition of the affairs and funds of said corporation shall be vested in the individuals named in the first section of this act, and their successors in office, who shall remain in office for such period, and be displaced and succeeded by others, to be elected at such time and in such manner as the said General Assembly shall direct and appoint.

"SECTION 4.—The said corporation shall in law be capable of taking, receiving, and holding any real or personal estate which has been or may hereafter be given, devised, or bequeathed to it, or to the said General Assembly, for the purposes aforesaid, or which may accrue from the use of the same; but the said corporation shall not take and hold real and personal estate above the sum of two hundred thousand dollars.

"SECTION 5.—This act shall take effect immediately.—*Passed April* 17, 1858."

Now, therefore, in order that the objects for which the said Committee was established and incorporated may be fully accomplished, the General Assembly hereby adopts the following rules for the guidance hereafter of the said Committee, and the churches, Presbyteries, and Synods under the care of the Assembly; and repeals all former acts of the Assembly establishing a Plan of Education.

I.

The Permanent Committee, on behalf of the Assembly, shall superintend the whole work of Education for the Ministry; shall do whatever may be proper and necessary to carry out the provisions of this Plan, so as to develop an educational spirit and activity throughout the churches, Presbyteries, and Synods in connection with the General Assembly; and shall make to the Assembly a full annual report, as far as can be ascertained, of all that has been done throughout the Church in behalf of Education for the Ministry. [476]

II.

As soon as convenient, after the meeting of each General Assembly, the Permanent Committee shall elect a General Secretary, who shall retain his office until his successor is elected. The Committee may also employ, at their discretion, any additional agency which may be necessary for the prosecution of the work.

III.

The General Secretary shall be the executive officer of the Permanent Committee. It shall be his duty, as far as he can, to visit the Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, for the purpose of awakening their interest and concentrating their energies in this matter; to visit the students aided by the Permanent Committee, and to exercise, as far as possible, a pastoral supervision over them; to present this cause to the churches; to urge upon young men the claims of the ministry; to collect funds as opportunity may be afforded him; to discharge such other duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Permanent Committee, in furtherance of the general object of Education for the Ministry; and to make a quarterly report, in writing, of his doings, to the Permanent Committee.

IV.

The Permanent Committee shall also annually elect a Treasurer, who shall receive all funds intrusted to them, and disburse the same under their direction. At their discretion, this officer may receive a reasonable compensation, and be required to give adequate bonds.

V.

Appropriations to students for the ministry shall be made, by the Permanent Committee, according to the rules heretofore approved by the General Assembly, (Minutes 1857, p. 390,) or such as shall hereafter be approved. Although it is recommended to churches and to donors not to give a specific direction to their contributions, yet, in individual cases, and for sufficient reasons, any designation may be given to contributions not inconsistent with the rules of the General Assembly, provided, nevertheless, that all funds passing through the treasury shall bear a due proportion of the expenses of the Committee.

VI.

Each church connected with the General Assembly will be expected to make an annual contribution for Ministerial Education, to be paid into the treasury of the Permanent Committee.

VII.

It is earnestly recommended that each Presbytery promote the success of this work within its own bounds by giving attention to the following particulars:

1. Making the subject of the increase of candidates for the ministry a topic of serious consideration in its meetings, at least once in each year; and appointing a Standing Committee to act for the [477] Presbytery in all matters pertaining to the cause, when it is not in session.
2. Seeing that the subject is properly presented in all its churches annually, and that a contribution is made in each one, and paid into the treasury of the Permanent Committee.
3. Seeking out, selecting, examining, and recommending to the Permanent Committee, such young men in its churches as should receive assistance from the general treasury; and, as far as possible, supervising and directing them during their studies.
4. Making an annual report of the doings of the Presbytery on the whole

subject, to the Permanent Committee, previous to the meeting of each General Assembly.

5. Doing such other things as may be calculated to give this work its true place among the agencies for evangelization.

VIII.

Each Presbytery, whose churches contribute to the treasury of the Permanent Committee without giving a specific direction to their contributions, shall be entitled, so far as the means placed at the disposal of the Permanent Committee will allow, to receive aid for all candidates for the ministry recommended by it to that Committee, however much the appropriations to them may exceed the contributions of the churches of the said Presbytery.

IX.

It shall be the duty of the Synods to call up this subject annually, and to inquire what the Presbyteries and churches under their care are doing in relation to it; and to adopt such measures as may promote, in accordance with this Plan, this great and important cause of Christian benevolence.

The Permanent Committee having submitted for the approval of the Assembly an addition to the first rule for aiding young men, the Standing Committee recommend the insertion of the following clause after the words, "at least one year" in that rule, namely: "That he has been recommended by the pastor and elders of the church to which he belongs, as a suitable person to be aided in preparing for the ministry."

The following was substituted for the third rule:

3. All funds contributed for Educational purposes, and disbursed by the Committee, shall be denominated "Scholarship Funds;" and the annual payment to students shall not, unless in very peculiar circumstances, exceed eighty dollars for the academic, one hundred dollars for the collegiate, and one hundred and twenty for the theological course *per annum*, to be paid in quarterly installments upon the return of the schedules to be filled up by the student and his instructors, and the approbation of the same by the Permanent Committee.

The term of office of one class of the members of the Permanent Committee having expired, the following persons are hereby nomi[478]nated to fill the vacancy: Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., of Newark, N. J.; Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., of Philadelphia; Rev. Robert R. Booth, of New York; Rev. Charles S. Robinson, of Brooklyn, and Mr. Preserved H. Porter, of Newark, N. J.

The Committee to nominate the *Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions* presented their report, recommending the appointment of Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D., Mr. Oliver E. Wood, Mr. Joseph F. Joy, Hon. Edward A. Lambert, Mr. J. Milton Smith, Mr. James B. Pinneo, Mr. John A. Brown, and Hon. Joseph Allison;

And that Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D., Mr. John A. Brown, and Mr. J. Milton Smith, be assigned to the first class, to serve for one year;

That Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Hon. Joseph Allison, and Mr. Oliver E. Wood, be assigned to the second class, and serve for two years;

And that Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Mr. Joseph

F. Joy, Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Mr. James B. Pinneo, be assigned to the third class, and serve for three years.

They further recommend that the place for the first meeting of the Committee be the city of New York; the time be the third Tuesday of June; and that the Stated Clerk be charged with the duty of making the arrangements for this meeting.

The report was adopted.

At the request of Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. J. Parsons Hovey was appointed in his place on the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture N. 5:

"Where one portion of a church connected with, and under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery, denies the jurisdiction and authority of the Presbytery and every other body, and all right to review its proceedings, and the right of appeal to the Presbytery, and declare their determination so to continue; and the other portion of such church declare to the Presbytery their wish to continue their connection with the Presbytery as heretofore, instead of setting up as an independent church: What is the duty of the Presbytery toward that portion who remain faithful to such jurisdiction?"

And recommended the following answer: That, in the judgment of the Assembly, the report on the subject last year (see Minutes, pp. 260, 261)* implies, that the church sustains the same relation to the Presbytery as before the denial of its jurisdiction; and that the Delegate of the church is entitled to a seat in the Presbytery, as in years previous to the act aforesaid. [479]

The janitor's bill, the bill of the reporter of the Assembly, the bills for printing and stationery, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Reformed Presbyterian Church, with the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The Standing Committees severally reported that they had no further business, and were discharged.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Rev. Messrs. Horace Eaton, Gurdon W. Noyes, Blackleach B. Gray, Oliver N. Chapin, Alexander Porter, Marcus Hicks, and Samuel Sawyer; and to Messrs. George W. Rhodes, John G. Parker, Harry D. Cook, Joseph D. Halbert, and John T. Rowland.

The following resolutions of thanks were, on recommendation of the Committee appointed for the purpose, unanimously adopted:

1. To the citizens of Syracuse, whose hospitalities we have proved so copiously, so pleasantly, so constantly, for their generous and exemplary kindness to us; shown in matter, in manner, and in motive, we doubt not, to the members of the Assembly, and to others attending its sessions: with the prayer, that their young and stately city, with its beautiful sceneries and its magnificent surroundings, especially their numerous and intelligent population, may be the covenanted care of our Heavenly Father, present and future; that our God may enrich them with his own unspent bounty, crowning them with his salvation, by grace, and with glory, in Jesus Christ, our adorable Lord, who is our hope, our strength, our glory, as the true God and eternal life; that our Redeemer may be also their own.

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* Reprint, p. 83.

2. To the Committee of Arrangements, for their prompt, devoted, provident care of us and ours; as more especially we name its worthy Chairman, the Hon. Israel S. Spencer, so useful, so beneficent, so distinguished, in the cause, as our gratitude loves to acknowledge as well as remember.

3. To the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church, its beloved pastor, and its noble congregation, its excellent choir, with their music, both vocal and instrumental, of such admirable character, assisting so artistically, so patriotically, so gratefully, our public devotions.

4. To the Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., our honored Moderator, for the dignity, kindness, assiduity, ability, and impartial order, mingled so well with forbearance and Christian urbanity; all which he has so genially exemplified in all his personal and official bearing toward us, his affectionate and fraternal constituents.

5. Also, to very many others, Christian gentlemen and elect ladies, on various occasions not here enumerated, in relations secular and sacred, official and social; touching all which our memories and our hearts will not soon cease to cherish our happy impressions of the [480] city of Syracuse, and our delightful visit here, in the season of Nature's blooms and beauties, in the month of May, 1861, and in connection with this meeting of our General Assembly.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without excuse:

Rev. Charles S. Sylvester, Mr. William Hannas, Rev. John Waugh, Rev. Abraham T. Young, Mr. Ingham Townsend, Rev. Mills B. Gelston, Mr. Levi Hotchkiss, Rev. Henry Fowler, Mr. Samuel N. Kinney, Rev. John McLeish, Mr. Jay E. Lee, Rev. A. Cogswell Frissell, Rev. Danel Rice, Rev. George W. Elliott, Rev. Silas H. Ashmun, Rev. James H. Trowbridge, and Mr. Charles T. Wilkinson.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Second Presbyterian church of the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the third Thursday of May, 1862, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Syracuse, N. Y., May 28th, 1861.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1861.

A NARRATIVE of the State of Religion in an ecclesiastical body must have reference to both the internal life and the external manifestations of that life. This idea will give shape to our report. The spiritual forces of our Church have this year been recruited by many revivals, and by the diligent use of the ordinary means of grace. The number of revivals reported in the Narratives placed in the hands of the Committee is sixty-six. Had every special quickening enjoyed by our churches been noticed, this number would doubtless have been greatly increased. What is styled a revival by one is deemed by another scarcely worthy the name. One minister is like the woman who called in the neighbors to rejoice with her, when one piece of silver was found; while another holds no jubilee over many converts, but rather mourns that they are so few. The revivals reported were neither so many nor so powerful, as those which have taken place in some former years; but they have brought gladness to many hearts on earth and in heaven. The spiritual life of the Church appears to have been greatly promoted by the "week of prayer," observed very extensively by various denominations in our country during the first days of this year, at the call of British Christians and missionaries. We notice with pleasure, that there is an increasing disposition to use our excellent Shorter Catechism in the instruction of the young, and to introduce the expository method of preaching into our pulpits. The evidences are abundant, also, that our Church is becoming more and more pervaded by a spirit of Christian denominationalism; not a sectarian spirit, which should be our abhorrence; not an exclusive, unfraternal spirit, which is inconsistent with the generous liberty promoted by our institutions; but a spirit of love for our cherished symbols and modes of government, which contributes to make both better Christians and more loyal Presbyterians.

The interior life of the Church, thus fostered and developed, has revealed itself during the past year, in a continuous and healthy growth. Many causes have combined to check this growth. Financial embarrassment has prevented a hoped-for expansion in some of the wealthier communities. In States, where emigration has introduced the nomadic element into society, our infant enterprises have been greatly retarded; while, in Kansas, famine and political troubles have conspired to defeat the hopes of all denominations. There are nevertheless some substantial evidences of growth. Several new churches are reported as brought into our connection during the year, and several new houses of worship as erected within our bounds. The number of communicants, also, is largely increased.

The activities of our churches have revealed themselves, firstly, in a careful ordering of each individual "household of the faith." The Sabbath-schools are almost invariably represented as in a flourishing condition. In three cases at least, libraries for the use of the pastor have been founded.

The activities of the churches have developed themselves, secondly, in a ready contribution to the great benevolent institutions of the day. Many of our churches responded nobly to the appeal, made by the A. B. C. F. M., to relieve it of debt before its last anniversary, the jubilee of its history. But we regret, that our contributions have greatly failed, since the opening of the political troubles by which our country is at present unhappily disturbed. The cause of Education has received some new impulses. Our new Theological Seminary at Chicago is just about to go into operation; and our other Seminaries and Colleges have been attended by an unusual number of students. There is, however, too much apathy as yet in regard to the education of candidates for the ministry.

Presbyterial missions have received an unusual degree of attention. In some places they have been prosecuted with a marked success; while, in all our newer Presbyteries, the necessity of such labor has become almost painfully evident.

The activity of our churches in mission-school enterprises should not pass unnoticed. In New York, in Brooklyn, in Philadelphia, in Chicago, in Wilmington, and in other cities, special efforts have been made to reach, by evangelical influences, the children, and through them the adults, in the "streets and lanes." The results of these efforts are surprising. Commodious chapels have sprung up in the midst of wretched dwellings. Hundreds have been taken from the slippery walks and filthy gutters, and taught at once the lessons of self-respect and of Christianity. The "swearer's prayer" has been turned into that of the penitent, and the song of Zion has taken the place of the obscene ballad. New churches have been formed at the centres established by the opening of these schools, and older churches have been replenished by them. Romanism has suffered not a little by these agencies; and the spiritual graces of a multitude of teachers have been greatly developed by their self-denying labors.

An unusual degree of success has attended the missionary efforts of the past year among the Dakota Indians. There have also been some substantial advances made among our foreign population, especially among the Germans in the Presbytery of Newark.

The cause of Temperance has declined. The failure of the friends of prohibitory legislation to secure its adoption, or its thorough administration, has discouraged them. Upon this they had thrown themselves, and burnt their ships. All other measures they had deliberately abandoned; so that, when this failed, they could neither go forward nor retrace their steps. So at least they have appeared to feel, and many of them have done nothing. Some of the former friends of Temperance have retreated so far from prohibitory legislation, as to maintain, that the true theory is, to adopt the use of light wines and fermented liquors, and thus substitute a comparatively harmless stimulant for the poisoned compounds which have been so generally used; thus again we find the once grass-grown road of moderate drinking trodden by Christian feet. In some places, however, unusual efforts have been made to secure pledges to total abstinence as well from the dangerous wines of the currant and blackberry, as from those of the rich clusters of the vine. In some instances whole companies of soldiers, enlisting in our armies, have signed the temperance pledge before entering the camp.

The cause of Sabbath Observance has received special attention in some of our cities, especially in New York, with the happiest results.

This year is not without its mortuary record. More names than usual of honored brethren in the ministry are to be found in the list of those who have exchanged their earthly service for their heavenly rest. This list is as follows, viz.:

William F. Curry,	of the	Presbytery of	Geneva.
John Smith,	"	"	Bath.
Henry G. Miles,	"	"	"
William Waith,	"	"	Buffalo.
Daniel C. Houghton, D. D.,		"	Genesee.
Daniel Crane,	"	"	Hudson.
John Gray,	"	"	North River.
William Bradford,	"	"	New York, 3d.
Elymas P. Rogers,	"	"	Newark.
Amos Bingham,	"	"	Philadelphia, 3d.
Robert McBride,	"	"	Washtenaw.
Paul Shepherd,	"	"	Monroe.
Chester Birge,	"	"	Portage.
Charles A. Boardman,	"	"	Trumbull.
Alfred H. Betts,	"	"	Elyria.
James Wilson,	"	"	"
Israel S. Twombly,	"	"	Athens.
Lewis Godden,	"	"	Madison.
William H. Spencer,	"	"	Chicago.

Cyrus E. Rosenkrans, of the Presbytery of Columbus.
Abraham Van Stavoren, " " Keokuk.
George E. Delevan, " " Dubuque.
David Davies, " " Dakota.

One element which has largely entered into the recent religious history of our Church is the spirit of Christian patriotism. The wave of patriotic feeling, which has poured over the North, has indeed lifted all upon its breast, or overwhelmed those whom it has not lifted, as a tidal wave at the same moment buries the treacherous rocks and floats the gallant ships. Large numbers of the members of our churches have enlisted to fight their country's battles, feeling that the time has come, when those of the followers of the Prince of Peace who have no swords should sell their garments and buy them. Our stalwart men have taken up arms to conquer a peace, which was impossible without war. Many of them have gone into the field with a thoroughly religious spirit. In some instances, they have marched almost literally with a sacred song upon their lips, following that banner, which the Lord hath given them to be displayed because of the truth. They have carried religious influences with them into the camp, establishing prayer meetings, and distributing Bibles and tracts at every opportunity. Many instances of hopeful conversion in the camp or the garrison are reported. More than one has learned to make himself a living sacrifice to God, by first laying himself upon the altar of his country. Providentially our Church is free from those unhappy divisions which separate brethren of many denominations in this trying hour. Whatever the issue of the coming conflicts, we shall share alike in its triumphs or its humiliations. Whatever the feelings with which some may enter the field of strife, we are glad to know that from our churches have gone so many, who will ever keep the cross above the flag; whose courage will get its nerve from prayer rather than from passion; and who, if sent to the judgment-seat by the hand of violence, will have no account to render for shedding a brother's blood in an unholy wrath.

By order of the General Assembly.
JONATHAN B. CONDIT, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY..........	1803	5	84	4	6	72	153	156	8,617	51	116	$254 89	$3,316 00	$4,884 40	$1,682 47	$1,663 89	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain..................	1814	...	23	1	2	23	45	35	2,623	15	28	58 90	517 90	1,200 54	239 84	219 36	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy...	1820	...	26	3	...	18	37	41	2,296	12	16	50 11	892 66	1,520 74	508 55	338 93	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany......................	1791	...	14	...	1	12	31	39	1,804	15	36	50 13	666 98	645 69	559 31	133 03	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia....................	1802	...	6	...	2	6	12	17	749	3	23	38 90	276 00	748 00	118 00	189 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill......................	1851	...	15	...	1	13	28	24	1,145	6	13	56 85	962 46	759 43	256 77	783 57	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA.............	1829	4	88	4	8	72	200	155	6,845	95	99	196 95	2,405 57	3,920 60	2,815 06	1,906 08	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence...............	1818	...	10	...	...	6	35	20	609	15	6	25 00	92 00	373 00	....	91 00	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown..................	1822	...	16	1	...	20	94	29	1,976	63	39	72 00	533 63	851 51	293 60	508 46	Isaac Brayton, D. D.
3. Oswego	1823	...	12	...	...	15	6	18	1,500	3	19	3 50	425 25	1,085 34	320 00	674 16	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica..........................	1842	...	50	3	8	31	65	88	2,760	14	35	96 45	1,351 69	1,610 72	2,201 46	632 46	Timothy Dwight Hunt.
III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.........	1812	6	105	8	8	93	226	270	9,102	104	160	361 10	2,957 18	2,401 49	2,893 59	2,412 08	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	37	4	3	18	67	104	2,562	23	59	128 01	1,291 45	851 60	2,002 17	1,061 62	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath..........................	1817	...	14	...	...	16	42	22	1,203	15	21	42 93	151 50	139 00	13 00	26 60	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung....................	1836	...	21	1	...	21	59	66	1,841	31	33	46 71	446 00	435 00	152 50	379 69	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca........................	1839	...	9	...	1	8	10	25	1,181	5	10	45 65	325 44	288 68	201 14	171 36	Lewis Kellogg.
5. Pennsylvania..............	1845	...	10	...	...	15	17	6	594	15	12	30 00	75 86	65 25	51 98	28 37	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons.........................	1856	...	14	3	4	15	31	47	1,721	15	25	67 80	666 93	624 96	472 80	745 04	William N. Mellarg.
IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.......	1855	4	79	16	25	71	354	189	7,800	168	113	263 45	2,826 47	3,775 98	16,122 21	2,540 44	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga....................	1810	...	23	1	4	23	139	70	2,423	49	60	113 98	695 56	764 51	513 49	616 75	Horace P. Bogue.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	31	15	10	21	81	49	2,376	38	30	111 53	1,317 75	1,549 41	15,147 03	1,114 29	Charles Hawley.
3. Cortland.....................	1825	...	12	...	7	17	112	33	1,637	71	28	15 50	313 97	478 46	77 40	284 87	Ova H. Seymour.
4. Tioga.........................	1829	...	13	...	4	10	22	37	1,364	10	25	22 44	499 19	983 60	354 29	521 53	Samuel H. Hall.

V. Synod of Susquehanna...	1853	3	44	...	5	46	90	64	3,967	42	62	95 00	1,103 87	1,661 30	215 72	367 01	William T. Doubleday.
1. Otsego........................	1820	...	16	...	...	16	41	29	1,437	19	18	57 50	505 85	937 80	55 00	240 01	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango....................	1826	...	16	...	2	17	36	18	1,618	18	10	7 00	221 48	574 21	127 12	127 00	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware....................	1831	...	12	...	3	13	13	17	912	5	34	30 50	376 54	149 29	33 60	....	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. Synod of Genesee.........	1821	6	125	8	11	105	357	264	12,463	136	207	462 76	4,188 32	4,123 70	5,816 10	7,185 86	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo........................	1817	...	40	1	10	31	59	59	3,566	19	103	190 00	1,084 30	1,458 39	1,216 58	737 06	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	13	30	39	1,369	12	32	45 25	569 05	697 52	303 57	392 00	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester.....................	1819	...	26	5	1	16	204	87	2,793	77	35	112 30	933 03	728 93	3,802 31	5,449 92	Charles E. Furman.
4. Geneseo.......................	1819	...	15	2	...	16	36	25	1,402	18	29	35 51	778 85	608 83	265 03	554 88	Elizur N. Manley.
5. Niagara.......................	1823	...	17	...	...	18	13	35	2,333	2	36	52 00	591 71	476 15	74 75	14 00	Joshua Cooke.
6. Geneseo Valley............	1828	...	10	...	...	11	15	19	1,000	8	22	27 70	231 38	153 88	153 86	38 00	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	241	51	75	158	929	940	26,217	259	669	1096 70	33,362 38	29,177 72	16,724 83	10,933 98	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson.......................	1797	...	12	...	1	13	74	36	1,646	56	28	79 50	360 04	634 45	163 00	487 75	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River................	1819	...	18	2	1	19	18	36	1,850	7	35	94 00	144 86	328 35	288 43	2,464 04	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island................	1791	...	8	...	2	6	6	12	696	...	16	34 55	106 54	244 50	166 05	75 65	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d.............	1831	...	59	20	40	24	231	237	6,312	37	205	313 00	13,240 96	9,523 61	6,241 23	1,929 02	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th............	1845	...	36	21	14	12	141	102	3,052	27	113	157 60	9,945 85	10,682 33	6,655 26	2,435 06	J. Parsons Hovey, D.D.
6. Brooklyn....................	1838	...	20	1	4	10	67	214	2,341	23	74	112 00	3,364 37	2,830 52	1,019 01	1,832 59	William S. Karr.
7. Newark......................	1821	...	41	3	8	23	125	168	5,461	31	99	137 50	4,964 05	2,920 04	1,239 95	791 63	Joseph Few Smith, D.D.
8. Rockaway...................	1839	...	22	1	1	20	116	71	2,334	57	44	85 55	442 00	1,150 00	526 00	875 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose....................	1832	...	25	3	4	31	51	64	2,525	21	55	83 00	793 71	863 92	425 90	43 24	Adam Miller.
VIII. Synod of Penna.........	1838	5	105	7	53	83	535	381	13,366	115	426	560 98	26,706 33	6,731 53	6,616 48	4,810 03	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	11	2	4	15	25	22	1,383	10	36	44 48	3,007 29	766 29	527 45	453 50	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d.........	1832	...	30	...	16	21	269	220	3,515	41	151	178 00	18,496 00	3,114 00	3,494 00	2,952 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, 4th........	1845	...	34	4	25	27	202	117	6,207	54	183	254 50	3,674 29	2,067 58	1,783 04	895 76	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh............ ..	1839	...	16	...	8	10	39	22	1,134	10	56	84 00	1,528 75	783 66	811 99	508 77	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia *	1831	...	14	1	...	10	...	...	1,127	...	...	......	....	....	....	....	William McLain, D. D.
IX. Synod of W. Penna.......	1843	3	23	3	6	35	81	49	3,072	22	94	140 70	3,886 62	1,080 91	1,647 17	835 00	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie...........................	1801	...	11	1	5	13	23	18	1,351	10	25	67 25	321 86	299 52	64 17	530 00	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	6	1	...	16	35	9	942	7	31	35 00	97 00	40 00	140 00	37 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	6	1	1	6	23	22	779	5	38	38 45	3,467 76	741 39	1,443 00	268 00	Henry Kendall, D. D.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
X. Synod of Michigan.........	1834	9	93	4	6	106	277	390	3,664	90	239	$352 19	$3,524 00	$2,585 11	$1,408 95	$1,953 64	William S. Huggins.
1. Detroit...	1826	...	18	...	1	17	41	84	1,497	9	25	52 95	1,653 78	535 73	546 26	132 71	E. P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	9	...	...	15	14	37	1,174	4	45	37 50	500 10	502 85	36 50	243 29	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall.....................	1838	...	15	1	...	15	59	57	1,372	16	19	44 60	248 53	187 34	181 00	296 15	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw................	1838	...	12	3	...	9	18	34	1,310	9	34	51 00	235 19	302 79	274 68	176 53	Benjamin Franklin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	11	...	...	13	51	78	1,155	25	29	40 75	311 97	445 50	73 86	752 62	Milton Bradley.
6. Cold Water................	1856	...	9	...	...	12	40	62	933	14	43	46 85	314 16	345 01	178 38	200 87	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw........	1856	...	10	...	5	14	23	13	790	9	24	57 44	183 23	212 70	60 00	83 00	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley.....	1857	...	6	...	...	5	20	15	339	4	15	16 95	43 00	53 19	58 27	49 62	David M. Cooper.
9. Lake Superior............	1857	...	3	...	...	6	11	10	94	...	5	4 15	34 09	....	....	18 85	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve....	1825	7	100	6	32	83	137	154	6,431	55	161	219 33	2,434 55	2,820 21	1,565 32	1,612 48	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River...............	1814	...	7	...	...	6	8	3	516	1	8	....	25 10	50 00	....	....	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage......................	1818	...	16	3	12	8	4	13	665	...	19	3 00	194 01	453 40	172 50	254 45	Samuel Lee.
3. Huron	1823	...	15	...	3	15	29	25	1,146	14	16	61 68	504 40	600 98	427 95	206 90	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull....................	1827	...	13	...	...	13	19	30	1,176	11	45	57 90	563 36	368 95	147 13	361 20	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	28	3	10	14	33	41	1,367	13	41	60 45	589 95	935 32	389 83	380 77	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	13	...	2	14	11	13	805	4	13	....	340 65	326 56	70 41	184 30	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee.....................	1842	...	8	...	5	13	33	29	756	12	19	36 30	217 08	85 00	357 50	224 86	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio............	1814	4	52	8	14	71	313	166	5,002	81	148	130 55	1,350 65	1,453 03	902 40	478 90	Addison Kingsbury, D.D.
1. Athens......................	1822	...	12	4	7	17	71	19	876	25	41	41 10	117 80	79 60	88 00	61 00	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	18	3	...	25	84	78	1,828	15	31	21 95	709 18	679 00	366 31	58 50	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin....................	1835	...	17	1	6	18	55	33	1,470	11	27	26 00	197 92	343 13	199 34	8 40	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	5	...	1	11	103	36	828	30	49	41 50	325 75	351 30	248 75	351 00	Tapping S. Reeve.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati...	1829	3	48	13	6	42	229	241	2,975	51	111	167 35	2,895 68	1,670 27	3,722 77	4,456 74	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati..................	1828	...	27	7	6	19	142	187	1,574	31	72	93 00	1,916 89	1,106 27	2,823 97	4,033 85	George M. Maxwell.
2. Dayton......................	1838	...	12	3	...	12	69	35	935	15	30	46 85	725 67	347 00	724 00	313 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton....................	1846	...	9	3	...	11	18	19	466	5	9	27 50	253 12	217 00	174 80	109 89	John Hussey.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA......	1826	4	37	2	17	63	192	111	3,360	59	143	177 71	1,468 16	1,601 71	8,852 65	697 10	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem........................	1823	...	9	...	2	16	88	36	959	19	38	47 55	767 01	681 70	6,864 70	193 70	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison....................	1825	...	9	2	6	14	26	17	954	8	46	47 71	303 41	297 16	919 40	240 75	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis..............	1830	...	11	...	5	18	61	41	930	27	47	50 00	258 65	411 60	1,000 30	185 00	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle..............	1850	...	8	...	4	15	17	17	517	5	12	32 45	139 09	211 25	68 25	77 65	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH........	1851	4	37	...	5	58	119	89	2,702	37	76	125 90	882 34	346 53	425 00	110 25	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville............	1825	...	13	...	...	12	24	15	503	8	22	29 30	480 20	147 16	25 00	25 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph.................	1833	...	11	...	...	16	38	25	822	13	13	41 40	149 86	29 37	255 00	17 00	Bethuel Farrand.
3. Logansport................	1835	...	7	...	...	18	43	31	950	13	26	33 80	197 28	165 00	145 00	68 25	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne................	1845	...	6	...	5	12	14	18	427	3	15	21 40	55 00	5 00	....	....	John Fairchild.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.......	1831	4	70	2	2	87	83	107	4,175	30	94	172 85	2,017 43	462 57	683 11	562 95	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois......................	1828	...	19	1	...	21	6	7	1,168	4	11	58 55	344 00	205 75	....	73 00	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler....................	1833	...	16	...	1	21	30	32	1,120	12	28	55 75	243 00	113 97	226 10	192 40	George I. King.
3. Wabash.....................	1833	...	8	...	...	9	14	24	355	6	5	17 45	34 00	28 50	25 26	53 50	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton........................	1836	...	27	1	1	36	33	44	1,532	8	50	41 10	1,396 43	114 35	431 75	244 05	Cornelius H. Taylor.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.......	1843	6	88	...	2	75	168	261	4,581	87	165	245 70	3,422 35	2,591 08	2,562 68	1,208 21	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa......................	1834	...	15	...	...	12	14	16	415	1	19	19 40	8 00	101 75	12 00	40 00	Newton Barrett.
2. Knox........................	1836	...	13	...	1	7	17	26	541	3	13	29 30	271 80	163 50	2,024 55	307 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena......................	1842	...	10	...	...	14	18	15	538	11	12	29 85	195 90	55 00	....	12 00	William J. Johnston.
4. Chicago.....................	1847	...	29	...	...	19	57	146	1,823	44	93	94 05	2,803 00	2,058 06	411 13	725 21	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere...................	1847	...	12	...	...	8	24	32	746	11	10	40 00	104 15	185 77	110 00	80 00	Henry B. Holmes.
6. Bloomington..............	1857	...	9	...	1	15	38	26	518	17	18	33 10	39 50	27 00	5 00	44 00	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.	1857	3	25	...	1	35	71	50	1,412	15	55	76 20	131 87	69 82	981 00	10 00	Sidney H. Barteau.
1. Milwaukee.................	1851	...	11	...	1	9	22	15	589	2	24	34 70	50 75	....	100 00	....	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River..................	1851	...	8	...	...	10	12	9	351	...	5	19 80	34 93	19 75	77 00	....	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus..................	1856	...	6	...	...	16	37	26	472	13	26	21 70	46 19	50 07	104 00	10 00	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA...........	1853	6	54	...	4	67	162	126	2,098	44	60	89 40	248 65	160 14	147 40	45 28	Peter S. Van Nest.
1. Des Moines................	1845	...	6	...	...	10	6	34	230	1	...	11 80	25 50	27 00	....	8 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City..................	1852	...	21	...	...	26	60	58	810	18	27	37 80	99 75	61 44	119 50	26 98	Isaac W. Atherton.
3. Keokuk.....................	1852	...	9	...	4	7	43	12	375	8	11	19 10	35 45	....	....	....	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque...................	1855	...	6	...	...	3	14	8	181	7	6	9 10	76 25	71 70	....	10 30	James H. Trowbridge.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
5. Iowa Valley	1857	...	5	...	...	11	28	10	189	10	12	$11 60	$3 40	....	$27 00	....	Williston Jones.
6. Chariton	1860	...	7	...	...	10	11	4	313	...	4	....	8 30	....	....	....	Asa Martin.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA	1858	3	21	...	...	21	32	35	551	10	30	26 90	251 00	$251 80	12 00	$111 15	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota	1846	...	10	...	...	8	12	14	169	4	17	7 80	182 00	195 17	5 00	32 15	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	7	...	...	9	7	7	237	...	9	11 85	12 00	42 40	....	....	John Mattocks.
3. Winona	1857	...	4	...	...	4	13	14	145	6	4	7 25	57 00	14 23	7 00	79 00	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI	1832	4	19	2	2	19	53	80	928	20	35	45 60	743 90	551 70	305 50	175 37	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	7	...	2	3	18	52	515	5	22	29 40	733 90	548 70	297 50	175 37	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	6	...	...	5	22	12	261	12	8	11 25	10 00	3 00	8 00	....	William W. Whipple.
3. Lexington *	1845	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	......	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Timothy Morgan.
4. Kansas	1859	...	6	2	...	11	13	16	152	3	5	4 95	....	....	....	....	Judson Aspinwall.
XXII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA	1857	3	20	...	...	16	39	39	432	6	33	7 70	66 00	43 00	....	20 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	7	...	...	4	6	19	138	...	12	....	....	....	....	....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	5	...	...	4	3	5	156	1	8	7 70	60 00	43 00	....	20 00	Walter Frear.
3. San José	1857	...	8	...	...	8	30	15	138	5	13	....	6 00	....	....	....	Wm. Wallace Brier.

To the list of *Deaths*, page 483 [Reprint, p. 140], is to be added the name of the Rev. Philip C. Hay, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark. Rev. Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th, Rev. David Murdock, D. D., of the Presbytery of Chemung, and Rev. William Hanford, of the Presbytery of Portage, have died since the meeting of the Assembly.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	84	4	6	72	153	156	8,617	51	116	$254.89	$3,316.00	$4,884.40	$1,682.47	$1,663.89
2. Utica	1829	4	88	4	8	72	200	155	6,845	95	99	196.95	2,405.57	3,920.60	2,815.06	1,906.08
3. Geneva	1812	6	105	8	8	93	226	270	9,102	104	160	361.10	2,957.18	2,404.49	2,893.59	2,412.08
4. Onondaga	1855	4	79	16	25	71	354	189	7,800	168	143	263.45	2,826.47	3,775.98	16,122.21	2,540.44
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	44	...	5	46	90	64	3,967	42	62	95.00	1,103.87	1,661.30	215.72	367.01
6. Genesee	1821	6	125	8	11	105	357	264	12,463	136	207	462.76	4,188.32	4,123.70	5,816.10	7,185.86
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	241	51	75	158	929	940	26,217	259	669	1096.70	33,362.38	29,177.72	16,724.83	10,933.98
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	105	7	53	83	535	381	13,366	115	426	560.98	26,706.33	6,731.53	6,616.48	4,810.03
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	23	3	6	35	81	49	3,072	22	94	140.70	3,886.62	1,080.91	1,647.17	835.00
10. Michigan	1834	9	93	4	6	106	277	390	8,664	90	239	352.19	3,524.05	2,585.11	1,408.95	1,953.64
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	100	6	32	83	137	154	6,431	55	161	219.33	2,434.55	2,820.21	1,565.32	1,612.48
12. Ohio	1814	4	52	8	14	71	313	166	5,002	81	148	130.55	1,350.65	1,453.03	902.40	478.90
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	48	13	6	42	229	241	2,975	51	111	167.35	2,895.68	1,670.27	3,722.77	4,456.74
14. Indiana	1826	4	37	2	17	63	192	111	3,360	59	143	177.71	1,468.16	1,601.71	8,852.65	697.10
15. Wabash	1851	4	37	...	5	58	119	89	2,702	37	76	125.90	882.34	346.53	425.00	110.25
16. Illinois	1831	4	70	2	2	87	83	107	4,175	30	94	172.85	2,017.43	462.57	683.11	562.95
17. Peoria	1843	6	88	...	2	75	168	261	4,581	87	165	245.70	3,422.35	2,591.08	2,562.68	1,208.21
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	25	...	1	35	71	50	1,412	15	55	76.20	131.87	69.82	981.00	10.00
19. Iowa	1853	6	54	...	4	67	162	126	2,098	44	60	89.40	248.65	160.14	147.40	45.28
20. Minnesota	1858	3	21	...	...	21	32	35	551	10	30	26.90	251.00	251.80	12.00	111.15
21. Missouri	1832	4	19	2	2	19	53	80	928	20	35	45.60	743.90	551.70	305.50	175.37
22. Alta California	1857	3	20	...	...	16	39	39	432	6	33	7.70	66.00	43.00	....	20.00
		105	1558	138	288	1478	4800	4317	134,760	1577	3326	$5269.91	$100,189.37	$72,367.60	$76,102.41	$44,096.44

MINUTES, 1862.

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 15th, 1862.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Second Presbyterian church in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on Thursday, the 15th of May, 1862, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Acts 17 : 2, 3: "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures, opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [4]

Thursday, May 15th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented by the Stated Clerk, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled, as duly appointed Commissioners of the General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	John S. Stone.	
2. *Troy,*	Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Jonathan H. Noble.	
3. *Albany,*	Stephen Bush.	
4. *Columbia.*	William Whittaker.	
5. *Catskill,*	Samuel Loomis,	Hon. John Niles.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	Baruch B. Beckwith.	
2. *Watertown,*	Peter Snyder,	Lewis Stevens.
3. *Oswego,*	Thomas A. Weed,	Samuel Smith.
4. *Utica,*	Samuel W. Brace, Jonathan B. Hubbard, Albert H. Corliss,	Russell Mather, David K. Butts, M. Miller Gray.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva,*	Timothy M. Hopkins, Benjamin M. Goldsmith,	George W. Brundage, M.D.
2. *Bath,*	David D. Gregory,	James H. Hotchkin.
3. *Chemung,*	Augustus W. Cowles, D. D.,	Robert Wilson.
4. *Ithaca,*	David Torrey,	Hon. Henry S. Walbridge.
5. *Pennsylvania,*	James F. Calkins,	Enoch Blackwell.
6. *Lyons,*	Lewis M. Shepard,	Albert F. Cressy.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Mont'y M. Wakeman (3),	Hon. Israel S. Spencer.
2. *Cayuga*,	Charles Hawley, D. D.,	Ira Hamilton, M. D.,
	George W. Warner,	Orren Hughett.
3. *Cortland*,	Henry N. Millerd,	Daniel E. Whitmore.
4. *Tioga*,	Samuel H. Hall, D. D.	

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Samuel J. White,	Benjamin Jacobson.
2. *Chenango*,	Alfred Ketcham,	Thomas Yale.
3. *Delaware*,		Philip Bassett, M. D. [5]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Frederick W. Flint,	John Otto,
		George W. Tew (2),
2. *Ontario*,	George P. Folsom,	Ephraim Cone.
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Caleb K. Adams,
	Frank F. Ellinwood,	Harry Allen, M. D.
4. *Genesee*,	Elizur N. Manley,	Stephen Ives.
5. *Niagara*,	Joshua Cooke,	James Wells.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Elijah W. Stoddard,	William F. Wheeler.

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Henry F. Wadsworth,	George W. Seward.
2. *North River*,	Elisha G. Cobb,	Benjamin I. Van Keuren.
3. *Long Island*,	Edward Stratton,	James S. Skidmore.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	William A. Booth,
	Dwight M. Seward,	Daniel H. Smith,
	Samuel W. Crittenden,	James W. Bishop.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Joel Parker, D. D.,	Samuel M. Blatchford,
	John Spaulding,	Albert N. Brown.
6. *Brooklyn*,	James W. McLane, D. D.,	Hon. Edward A. Lambert.
7. *Newark*,	Christ'r M. Nickels, D. D.,	Stephen G. Gould,
	James P. Wilson, D. D.,	Seth W. Magie.
8. *Rockaway*,	Nathan Leighton,	Joseph J. Fitzgerald.
9. *Montrose*,	William H. Adams,	Richard L. Seely,
	Israel Brundage,	Simeon B. Chase.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	William Aikman (2),	John C. Clark.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	Beriah B. Hotchkin,	Isaac Ashmead.
	Thomas S. Johnston,	Alexander Whilldin.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	William T. Eva,	Theophilus Trenchard,
	Henry S. Osborne,	Roderick Byington, M. D
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William Sterling,	John B. Hall.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Mason Noble.	

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Joseph Vance,	Harmon Ensign.
2. *Meadville*,	Robert C. Allison.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	James F. Read, D. D.,	William C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Horace Hallock.
2. *Monroe*,	Erasmus J. Boyd.	
3. *Marshall*,	William A. McCorkle,	Lewis Keeler.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Benjamin Russell,	Alvah Pratt.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Norman Kellogg,	Joseph C. Larimore (2).
6. *Cold Water*,	Joseph A. Ranney,	William McMeehan.
7. *Saginaw*,	David H. Taylor,	Horace D. Rood.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Louis Mills (2).	
9. *Lake Superior*,	Cicero B. Stevens.	[6]

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Grand River*,	Dexter Witter,	Erastus Chester.
2. *Portage*,	Elias C. Sharp.	
3. *Huron*,	Francis Z. Rosseter,	Leman Galpin, M. D.
4. *Trumbull*,	William C. Clark,	Erastus Wolcott.
5. *Cleveland*,	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D.,	Franklin S. Slosson, M. D.,
	Raymond H. Leonard (2),	Isaac E. Brush.
6. *Elyria*,	Ansel R. Clark.	
7. *Maumee*,	Perry C. Baldwin.	

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Athens*,	Archibald S. Reid,	Joel Deming.
2. *Pataskala*,	Warren Swift.	
3. *Franklin*,	Thomas J. Downey,	Benoni Dickerman.
4. *Scioto*,	Tapping S. Reeve,	Robert Wood.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Cincinnati*,	Mat. L. P. Thompson, D. D.,	Franklin V. Chamberlain,
	John E. Chandler,	Edward D. Mansfield.
2. *Dayton*,	William M. Cheever,	Winslow S. Phelps (2).
3. *Hamilton*,	Jeremiah P. E. Kumler,	Stephen Whitlock.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Salem*,	Henry W. Ballantine,	Olly Owen.
2. *Madison*,	John Gerrish,	James Lamb, M. D.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Isaac Delamater,	John L. Ketcham.
4. *Green Castle*,	Henry L. Dickerson,	Charles C. Knapp.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Crawfordsville*,	Thomas Griffith,	Presley T. McKinney.
2. *St. Joseph*,	Edward Scofield,	Abraham J. Westervelt.
3. *Logansport*,	Francis S. McCabe,	J. Culbertson Reynolds.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Henry C. Cheadle,	Hon. John L. Knight.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	William G. Gallaher,	Samuel M. Rannels.
2. *Schuyler*,	William Herrit,	John H. Catlin (3).
3. *Wabash*,	John C. Campbell,	James M. Culbertson.
4. *Alton*,	Charles H. Foote,	Lawson A. Parks,
	Andrew Luce (2),	Ebenezer Cheney.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Henry Bergen (2).	
2. *Knox*,	Wilbur McKaig.	
3. *Galena*,	Aratus Kent,	Thomas Wilson.
4. *Chicago*,	Baxter Dickinson, D. D., George L. Little,	Hon. William H. Brown, Nathaniel S. Bouton.
5. *Belvidere*,	Charles N. Mattoon, D. D.,	Calvin A. Shaw.
6. *Bloomington*,	Hiram H. Kellogg,	David Brier. [7]

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Joseph S. Lord.	
2. *Fox River*,	John B. Preston,	Wilson Holt.
3. *Columbus*,	Timothy Williston,	John Philips.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Francis M. Dimmick.	
2. *Iowa City*,	George D. Young,	Samuel H. Rogers.
3. *Keokuk*,	Isaac E. Carey.	
4. *Dubuque*,	Charles R. French,	Richard Edwards.
5. *Iowa Valley*.		
6. *Chariton*.		

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	Stephen R. Riggs,	John B. Renville.
2. *Minnesota*,	Gideon H. Pond,	Jeremiah W. Selby (3).
3. *Winona*,	Joseph W. Hancock,	Caleb J. F. Smith.

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Smith H. Hyde (2),	James Patterson (2).
2. *North'n Missouri*,	Thomas H. Tatlow.	
3. *Kansas*,	William H. Smith (2).	

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco*.		
2. *Sierra Nevada*.		
3. *San José*,	Laurentine Hamilton (3).	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*
2. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*, } Rev. William H. Harrison, D. D.
3. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*
4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*
5. *General Association of Massachusetts.*
6. *General Association of Connecticut.*
7. *General Association of New Hampshire.*
8. *General Conference of Maine.*
9. *General Convention of Vermont.*

10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,* Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves.
11. *Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.*
12. *Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States,* Rev. Daniel M. Moore. [8]

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., of the Presbytery of Detroit, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

A communication was received from Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly, tendering his resignation, on account of his impaired state of health. The Assembly declined accepting his resignation, and appointed the Rev. William Sterling, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, to perform the duties of the office, *pro tem.*

Rev. Frank F. Ellinwood, of the Presbytery of Rochester, and Hon. William H. Brown, of the Presbytery of Chicago, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12½ P. M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M. to 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator; and that, if an evening session should be necessary during the meeting of the Assembly, it shall commence at 8 o'clock P. M.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed among the members.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, that the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M., to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 16*th*, 9 *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Louis Mills, Minister, from the Presbytery of Grand River Valley.

William Aikman,	Minister,	from the	Presbytery of	Wilmington.	
Smith H. Hyde,	"	"	"	St. Louis.	
Andrew Luce,	"	"	"	Alton.	
Henry Bergen,	"	"	"	Ottawa.	[9]
Raymond H. Leonard,	"	"	"	Cleveland.	
William H. Smith,	"	"	"	Kansas.	
James Paterson,	Elder,	"	"	St. Louis.	
Winslow S. Phelps,	"	"	"	Dayton.	
Joseph C. Larimore,	"	"	"	Kalamazoo.	
George W. Tew,	"	"	"	Buffalo.	

Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee.* *Ministers*—Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Baxter Dickinson, D. D., Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., Norman Kellogg. *Elders*—Hon. Henry S. Walbridge, Samuel M. Blatchford, Hon. John L. Knight.

2. *Bills and Overtures.* *Ministers*—Joel Parker, D. D., William C. Clark, Peter Snyder, James F. Read, D. D. *Elders*—Hon. Israel S. Spencer, Richard L. Seely, James Lamb, M. D.

3. *Polity of the Church.* *Ministers*—Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Joseph A. Ranney, William M. Cheever, Isaac E. Carey. *Elders*—Alexander Whilldin, William C. Aughinbaugh, Nathaniel S. Bouton.

4. *Foreign Missions.* *Ministers*—James P. Wilson, D. D., Henry S. Osborne, William A. McCorkle, Gideon H. Pond. *Elders*—Harry Allen, M. D., Lewis Keeler, David Brier.

5. *Church Extension.* *Ministers*—James B. Shaw, D. D., Christopher M. Nickels, D. D., Erasmus J. Boyd, Aratus Kent. *Elders*—Hon. John Niles, Lawson A. Parks, Franklin S. Slosson, M. D.

6. *Education.* *Ministers*—Charles Hawley, D. D., John Spaulding, Augustus W. Cowles, D. D., Ansel R. Clark. *Elders*—William A. Booth, Horace Hallock, Edward D. Mansfield.

7. *Publication.* *Ministers*—James W. McLane, D. D., Hiram H. Kellogg, Jonathan H. Noble, Edward Scofield. *Elders*—Isaac Ashmead, James H. Hotchkin, Isaac E. Brush. [10]

8. *Narrative.* *Ministers*—Samuel H. Hall, D. D., William T. Eva, Tapping S. Reeve, William G. Gallaher. *Elders*—James W. Bishop, Erastus Chester, Philip Bassett, M. D.

9. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—Timothy M. Hopkins, Beriah B. Hotchkin, Joseph Vance, Timothy Williston. *Elders*—George W. Seward, Ira Hamilton, M. D., Richard Edwards.

10. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—Matthew L. P. Thompson, D. D., George W. Warner, Charles H. Foote, Thomas H. Tatlow. *Elders*—Roderick Byington, M. D., Samuel Smith, John Otto.

11. *Mileage.* *Elders*—Hon. Edward A. Lambert, Franklin V. Chamberlain, George W. Brundage, M. D.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—David Torrey, Stephen R. Riggs. *Elder*—Benjamin Jacobson.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—Samuel J. White, Francis M. Dimmick. *Elder*—Stephen Ives.

3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Henry F. Wadsworth, Joseph S. Lord. *Elder*—Alvah Pratt.

4. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—Mason Noble, William McKaig. *Elder*—Albert F. Cressy.

5. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—Baruch B. Beckwith, Henry W. Ballantine. *Elder*—Robert Wilson.

6. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Frederick W. Flint, John C. Campbell. *Elder*—Winslow S. Phelps.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—Thomas Griffith, Jeremiah P. E. Kumler. *Elder*—Harmon Ensign.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Francis S. McCabe, Thomas J. Downey. *Elder*—William McMechan.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Benjamin M. Goldsmith, Edward Stratton. *Elder*—Presley T. McKinney.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—John E. Chandler, William H. Adams. *Elder*—Daniel E. Whitmore.

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Samuel W. Brace, Isaac Delamater. *Elder*—Caleb K. Adams.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Robert C. Allison, John Gerrish. *Elder*—M. Miller Gray. [11]

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Warren Swift, William Herrit. *Elder*—Leman Galpin, M. D.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Alfred Ketcham, George D. Young. *Elder*—Stephen Whitlock.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Cicero B. Stevens, John B. Preston. *Elder*—Orren Hughett.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Dexter Witter, Charles R. French. *Elder*—Erastus Wolcott.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—David H. Taylor, Joseph W. Hancock. *Elder*—John Phillips.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Elizur N. Manley, George L. Little. *Elder*—James M. Culbertson.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Elijah W. Stoddard, George P. Folsom. *Elder*—Simeon B. Chase.

20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—Benjamin Russell, Israel Brundage. *Elder*—Samuel H. Rogers.

21. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—James F. Calkins, Nathan Leighton. *Elder*—John C. Clark.

22. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Perry C. Baldwin, Thomas S. Johnston. *Elder*—John B. Hall.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries, which were duly referred to the Standing Committees.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Hon. Israel S. Spencer and Mr. Albert N. Brown.

The reports of the Delegates, appointed by the last General Assembly, to Corresponding Bodies, were made the order of the day for 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The Assembly took a recess of fifteen minutes; after which, the annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was made the third order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The annual report of the Foreign Mission Committee was made the order of the day for Monday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The First Presbyterian church of Philadelphia, Pa., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. William T. Eva and Isaac Ashmead, were appointed to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee [12] was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, in part, recommending that the sermon on Publication be preached this evening, at 8 o'clock, and the recommendation was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 16th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Reports were received from the Delegates, appointed by the last Assembly, to Corresponding Bodies; from Rev. Christopher M. Nickels, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; from Rev. Horace Eaton, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. Andrew J. Fennell, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from Rev. Gustavus L. Foster, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication was received from the Rev. Josiah H. Stearns, the Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire.

The Rev. Daniel M. Moore, a Delegate from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States, appeared, requesting that a correspondence be opened with the body that he represents. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That, in accordance with this request, a fraternal correspondence be opened with that Synod, on the usual terms of correspondence with foreign bodies.

The name of the Rev. Daniel M. Moore was accordingly entered upon the Roll of the Assembly.

Resolved, That a Special *Committee* be appointed *on the State of the Country.*

Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. William Aikman, Rev. Horace Rood, and Mr. J. Culbertson Reynolds, were appointed to this service.

The Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry presented their annual report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

On the recommendation of the Committee appointed for the purpose, Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Rev. John W. Dulles, and Messrs. William G. Crowell, George Kendall, Samuel Work, and Alexander Whilldin, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements*, for the next General Assembly. [13]

Resolved, That the devotional exercises be continued for one hour each morning, during the remaining sessions of the Assembly.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 17th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Montg'ry M. Wakeman,	Minister,	of	the Presbytery	of	Onondaga.
Laurentine Hamilton,	"		"	"	San José.
John H. Catlin,	Elder,		"	"	Schuyler.
Jeremiah W. Selby,	"		"	"	Minnesota.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

The second order of the day, the annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, was postponed for the present.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions, was read, accepted, and referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a further report on supplies for the pulpits of the city and vicinity, on the Sabbath.

A communication was received from the board of trustees and the teachers of the Western Female Seminary, at Oxford, inviting the Assembly to visit that institution on Wednesday next, and participate in the exercises connected with the dedication of its new seminary edifice. The invitation was accepted, with thanks.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19*th*, 9 *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received from the managers of the Cincinnati Orphan Asylum, inviting the members of the Assembly to visit the institution at their convenience. [14]

The report of the Foreign Mission Committee was postponed, and made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Committee to audit the report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported, that they had examined the report, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommended that it be approved and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. Their report was accepted.

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies, was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Jonathan B. Hubbard, Samuel W. Crittenden, and Andrew Luce.

A *Committee* was appointed *to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions, for the next Assembly, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Henry N. Millerd, Raymond H. Leonard, and Norman Kellogg.

The subject of recommending the first Monday of January as a day of prayer for the Conversion of the World, as also other special seasons, to pray for particular objects, was referred to a *Committee* consisting of Rev. Messrs. Beriah B. Hotchkin, Baruch B. Beckwith, and William H. Smith.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the sermon on Home Missions be preached this evening, at 8 o'clock. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19*th*, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves, the Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 1, being a request of the Synod of Missouri, for the appointment of a time and place for their next meeting; as, in consequence of the distracted state of the country, they failed to secure a meeting last year, and they recommended, that the Synod of Missouri meet at Olathe, Kansas, on the second Thursday of October, 1862, at 7½ o'clock P. M., to be opened with a sermon by the last Moderator, or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present. The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 2, being a request from the Synods of Indiana and Wabash, for the transfer of the church of Rockville to the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, and of the church of Bainbridge to the Presbytery of Green Castle. As the church of Bainbridge has signified, by memorial to the Assembly, their desire for the transfer, and as nothing has been heard from the church of Rockville, the Committee recommended, that the request be granted, on condition that the church of Rockville consent to [15] the transfer, and give information of the fact to the Synod of Indiana, at their next annual meeting. The recommendation was adopted.

Rev. Charles P. Bush, one of the secretaries of the American Tract Society, of Boston, on the recommendation of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, was heard in behalf of that Society.

A series of resolutions on the State of the Country was presented, and referred to the Special Committee having that subject in charge.

The reports of the Committees on Synodical Records were made the order of the day for Thursday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Country was made the second order of the day for Thursday morning.

Rev. Augustus W. Cowles, D. D., the president of the Elmira Female College, was heard, in reference to that institution.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19th, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, when the Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., by appointment of the last General Assembly, preached a sermon on the subject of Home Missions.

At the close of the religious services, adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Tuesday, May 20th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Benjamin Graves, the Delegate of the last Assembly to the General Conference of Maine, presented his report; which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication was received from the Rev. George Leon Walker, the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

Also, a communication from the Rev. Clark E. Ferrin, the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont.

The annual report of the Foreign Mission Committee was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Detroit, on the subject of Foreign Missions, was received, and referred to the same Committee.

The Committee, appointed by the last General Assembly, on the [16] subject of Systematic Benevolence, presented their report, which was accepted;

and, after discussion, was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Charles N. Mattoon, D. D., Rev. Smith H. Hyde, and Rev. Louis Mills.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions reported, recommending the Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, of the Presbytery of Chicago, as principal, and Rev. George C. Curtis, of the Presbytery of Chemung, as alternate; and their report was adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the Annual Concerts of Prayer, made a report, which, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

They recommend the continued observance of all the seasons of special prayer, which have hitherto received the recommendation of the General Assembly. They regard the leadings of the Holy Spirit as having, within the last few years, tended eminently in that direction. They see this, in the spontaneousness of the movement of many branches of the Christian Church toward such meetings, as one great means of spiritual progress; in the remarkable effect which they have had, as a safe bond of union among all who hold to the one Spirit and the one Head, thus combining the power of prayer upon the main objects which lie upon the hearts of the whole sacramental host; and in the wondrous spiritual effusions, which have manifestly proceeded from them. They believe that, by promptly falling in with these spontaneous movements of the Christian world, our Church will find itself following the pillar of cloud and of fire, in which God is leading his Church through the wilderness.

With this view, the Committee propose, that it be recommended to our churches, that another week of prayer be observed during the coming ecclesiastical year; but that the time be so changed as to correspond with that recommended first by the Lodiana Mission—the first entire week in January.

The Committee also recommend that, according to long-established custom, the first Monday in January be observed as a day of fasting and prayer, with reference to the Conversion of the World; and that the last Thursday in February be devoted, in like manner, to the spiritual interests of students in our Colleges and other Seminaries of learning. [17]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, on the subject of *Sunday-schools*, and recommended that it be referred to a Special *Committee* of three, to report what action should be taken in regard to Sunday-schools by the Assembly. The report was adopted, and Rev. David Torrey, Rev. Thomas A. Weed, and Mr. Abraham J. Westervelt were appointed to this service.

Resolved, That the necessary traveling expenses of the Moderator who preaches the opening sermon of the General Assembly, and of the ministers who are appointed by the next previous Assembly to preach on Missions and Publication, if not Commissioners, be defrayed out of the Mileage Fund, according to the rates allowed to the Commissioners of the Assembly.

Resolved, That we have heard with interest the statements made by the Rev. Charles P. Bush, in behalf of the American Tract Society of Boston, with special reference to the large amount of work accomplished by that Society, in furnishing religious reading to our soldiers; and that we cheerfully commend this work to the consideration of the churches, as most important and timely, not only in its influences upon the brave troops exposed to peril and death, but also, through them, upon the welfare and perpetuity of our beloved country.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom were referred the annual reports of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund and of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, presented a report, which was accepted; and so much of the report as refers to Church Erection was taken up for consideration. Pending the discussion the hour of adjournment arrived.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported in part, recommending that the Lord's Supper be celebrated on Thursday, at 3 o'clock P. M., agreeably to the following order: The Moderator to preside; Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., to administer the Bread, and Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., to administer the Cup; and that Elders Hon. Israel S. Spencer, Ira Hamilton, M. D., James H. Hotchkin, Richard L. Seely, John C. Clark, and George W. Seward distribute the Bread; and Elders Samuel M. Blatchford, Jeremiah W. Selby, Samuel H. Rogers, Hon. Henry S. Walbridge, Hon. William H. Brown, and Ebenezer Cheney distribute the Cup. The report was adopted.

The order of the day for Thursday morning, viz., reports on Synodical Records, was reconsidered, and was made the first order of the day for Friday next; and so much of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension as refers to Home Missions was made the first order of the day for Thursday next.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow at 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [18]

Wednesday, May 21st, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., so much of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension as refers to the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Church Extension, to whom were referred the annual reports of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund and of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, would report, that they cannot speak in too high praise of the wisdom, fidelity, and economy, with which those great trusts have been managed; and these services are the more praiseworthy, because gratuitously rendered.

In relation to the Church Erection Fund, the Committee have only to recommend, that the Assembly enjoin upon the Synodical Committees,—to whom the Trustees of the Fund must necessarily look for information, in relation to the propriety of making a grant in any case,—the great importance of gaining full and accurate information concerning the condition and prospects of each church that seeks, through them, aid from the Fund, especially should those Committees be satisfied, that there is a reasonable prospect of permanence and growth in each case, and that, if aided from the Fund, they will have a house of worship, and be free from all debt except that which may be due to the Fund. There is little of benevolence in aiding a church, whose existence is doubtful, or where there is little prospect of growth, or of its ever becoming a self-supporting church.

A request was presented to your Committee by the Rev. Laurentine Hamilton, the Commissioner from California, that a much larger amount should be granted to churches in that section of our country, than the Assembly's plan at present allows.

The Committee have considered this request, and, while they sympathize with the infant churches in that distant part of our land, they do not feel that it would be wise to alter the plan of the Fund in order to meet these particular cases. They feel that it will be far better, to meet these cases by special application to individuals and churches, than to make a change that would open the door to other alterations, which would disturb the confidence of men in the permanence of this noble charity of the Church.

The Committee would also recommend, that the Assembly appoint a Special Committee of five, to report to the next Assembly some plan to meet those exceptional cases, which are not provided for by the plan of the Church Erection Fund.

The term of office of the following persons expires this year, viz.: Samuel T. Spear, Edwin F. Hatfield, and Stephen H. Thayer. The Committee recommend that they be re-elected.

The rule fixing the hour for commencing the morning sessions [19] was reconsidered, and the Assembly agreed to meet at half-past eight o'clock A. M. during the remaining sessions.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. William H. Harrison, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, was introduced to the Assembly, and his name placed on the Roll.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Foreign Bodies made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *To the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Francis S. McCabe, of the Presbytery of Logansport, principal; and Rev. Charles H. Foote, of the Presbytery of Alton, alternate.
2. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. William Sterling, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, principal; Rev. William C. Clark, of the Presbytery of Trumbull, alternate.
3. *To the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 3d, principal; Rev. William Aikman, of the Presbytery of Wilmington, alternate.
4. *To the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, 4th, principal; Rev. Joseph Vance, of the Presbytery of Erie, alternate.
5. *To the General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, principal; Rev. Samuel W. Brace, of the Presbytery of Utica, alternate.
6. *To the General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; Rev. Dwight M. Seward, of the Presbytery of New York, 3d, alternate.
7. *To the General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Samuel Loomis, of the Presbytery of Catskill, principal; Rev. Stephen Bush, of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.
8. *To the General Conference of Maine*—Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cayuga, principal; Rev. Robert R. Booth, of the Presbytery of New York, 3d, alternate.
9. *To the General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Peter Snyder, of the Pres-

bytery of Watertown, principal; Rev. Timothy M. Hopkins, of the Presbytery of Geneva, alternate. [20]

10. *To the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, of the Presbytery of Chicago, principal; Rev. Augustus T. Norton, of the Presbytery of Alton, alternate.

11. *To the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France*—Rev. Eli N. Sawtell, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cleveland.

12. *To the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States*—Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; Rev. Shubael G. Spees, of the Presbytery of Dayton, alternate.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 4, on a reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, separated by the action of 1837. The report was accepted, and put on the docket.

The Standing Committee on Publication made a report on the annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, which was accepted, and made the second order of the day for Friday.

The order of the day, viz., that part of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension which refers to the annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, was taken up; and, after a full consideration, was adopted, and is as follows:

In relation to Home Missions, the Committee would submit to the Assembly the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the presentation of the Committee's first annual report furnishes occasion to consider our duty to the subject of Home Missions, and inquire, if it does not become all the contributors to the work greatly to enlarge their donations to that cause. The salvation of our country is the highest duty of our Church—a duty the more imperative, because so nearly related to the salvation of the world.

2. That without attempting to pledge the churches, as to the amount which they shall contribute, we would encourage the Committee to go on, and commission missionaries, not only to the number of two hundred and twenty-five, but if necessary, to supply churches actually existing, three hundred; and we will use our best endeavors, as pastors and elders, to secure for the use of the Committee, if need be, $75,000; for we have undertaken this work in the name of our Master, and dare not let it fail on our hands.

The appeals that come to us from the nearer sections of our country, especially from the State of California, and from the Territories of Nevada, Colorado, and Nebraska, are such, that if we do not send laborers there to gather the whitening harvest, many souls will perish through our neglect; and we recommend to the Committee to send forward, if possible, more ministers of Christ to these destitute fields, to strengthen the hands of brethren already gone before.

Your Committee regard the Exploring Missionary work of the [21] Church, as brought to their notice by memorials from the Presbyteries of Alton, Bloomington, and Green Castle, as one of great importance, and demanding immediate effort. They would call the attention of the Permanent Committee to the subject, that they may send exploring missionaries into our sparse settlements and new territories, as fast as the funds placed at their disposal will permit, and men suitable for the work can be obtained.

Your Committee also suggest to the Assembly, that they enjoin the Presbyterial Committees, not to recommend the renewal of the commissions of any missionary, until they have been over the field of his labors, carefully investigated his operations, and satisfied themselves of his acceptableness and prospective usefulness.

The term of office of the following persons expires this year, namely, Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Hastings, Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D., and Messrs. Matthew W. Baldwin and J. Milton Smith. The Committee recommend that Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Hastings, Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, and Messrs. Matthew W. Baldwin and J. Milton Smith be elected members of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions to serve for three years; and that the plan of Home Missions, adopted by the Assembly of 1861, be so amended that the General and Associate Secretaries be, *ex officio*, corresponding members of the Committee.

The Committee would further recommend that, instead of a Standing Committee on Church Extension, each Assembly should hereafter appoint two Standing Committees, to be called the Committee on Church Erection, and the Committee on Home Missions.

The second order of the day, viz., the report of the Special Committee on the State of the Country, was deferred, and made the order of the day for this afternoon, immediately after the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The Standing Committee on Education reported on that part of the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, which refers to the training of young men for the ministry of the Gospel. The report was accepted, and made the third order of the day for Friday.

The Committee on Mileage made the following report:

The Committee on Mileage would respectfully report:

That fifty Presbyteries have paid in full the amount of assessment, five cents for each communicant in their respective bounds. The Presbyteries thus honoring themselves and this Assembly are Catskill, St. Lawrence, Pennsylvania, Cayuga, Ontario, Rochester, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, Third, New York, Fourth, Brooklyn, Newark, Wilmington, Philadelphia, Third, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Marshall, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Huron, Cincinnati, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, [22] Schuyler, Wabash, Knox, Galena, Belvidere, Bloomington, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Iowa City, Dubuque, Dakota, Minnesota, Winona, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Kansas, and San José.

That ten Presbyteries have paid in full to the Contingent Fund of the Assembly, at the rate of sixty cents for each minister, and have paid a portion of the mileage assessment in addition, viz.:

Onondaga, Buffalo, Niagara, Philadelphia, Fourth, Trumbull, Maumee, Scioto, Dayton, Logansport, and Chicago.

That eighteen Presbyteries have paid their quota of sixty cents each minister to the Contingent Fund, viz.:

Albany, Watertown, Geneva, Chemung, Lyons, Tioga, Chenango, Genesee Valley, Rockaway, Meadville, Detroit, Washtenaw, Cold Water, Grand River, Athens, Alton, Milwaukee.

That six have contributed to the Contingent Fund in part, viz.:

Champlain, Troy, Bath, Portage, Elyria, and Pataskala.

That twenty-one Presbyteries are delinquent, and have contributed nothing toward the expenses of the General Assembly, viz.:

Columbia, Oswego, Utica, Ithaca, Cortland, Otsego, Delaware, Genesee, Montrose, District of Columbia, Monroe, Kalamazoo, Cleveland. Franklin, St. Joseph, Ottawa, Keokuk. Iowa Valley, Chariton, San Francisco, Sierra Nevada.

That the amount received by the Mileage Committee, from the various Presbyteries, is	$3277.26
The amount of bills presented, audited, and allowed, for mileage and expenses, is	2827.40

That, owing to a deficiency of some $300 in the appropriation to the Contingent Fund last year, the sum of $1100 is needed for that Fund, to meet that deficiency, and to defray the expenses of the present Assembly; which, deducted from the amount received, leaves a balance of $2120.55 toward the payment of the mileage bills, a sum that will pay seventy-five cents on a dollar of the amount of said bills.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend that seventy-five per cent. of the bills for mileage and necessary expenses of the Commissioners to this Assembly, as audited by the Committee, be paid to them; and that the balance be paid to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, to be applied to the Contingent Fund.

Your Committee would also recommend that the same rate, five cents *per capita* for each communicant, be assessed on the Presbyteries, for the necessary expenses of the Commissioners, and for the contingent expenses of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted; and the Committee were instructed to pay the bills of the Commissioners, according to the proposed ratio.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [23]

Thursday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of the ordinance.

After which, the Special Committee on the State of the Country presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Special Committee on the State of the Country submit the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, This General Assembly is called, in the providence of God, to hold its deliberations at a time when a wicked and fearful rebellion is threatening to destroy the fair fabric of our Government, to lay waste our beloved country, and to blight and ruin, so far as the present life is concerned, all that is most dear to us as Christians; and

Whereas, As a branch of the Christian Church, Presbyterians have ever been found loyal and the friends of good order, believing as they do, that civil government is "ordained of God," that "the magistrate is the minister of God for good," that "he beareth not the sword in vain," and they are therefore "subject" to this ordinance of God, "not only for wrath," or under the influence of fear, "but also for conscience' sake," or under the influence of moral and Christian principle; and

Whereas, The particular Church whose representatives we are, and in whose behalf we are now and here called to act, have inscribed upon our banner—"The Constitutional Presbyterian Church"—having never favored secession, or nullification, either in Church or State, deem it quite becoming and proper in us to express ourselves, with great Christian sincerity and frankness, on those matters which now agitate our country. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we deem the Government of these United States the most benign that has ever blessed our imperfect world; and, should it be destroyed after its brief career of good, another such, in the ordinary course of human events, can hardly be anticipated for a long time to come; and for these reasons we revere and love it, as one of the great sources of hope, under God, for a lost world; and it is doubly dear to our hearts, because it was procured and established by the toil and sacrifices and blood of our fathers.

Resolved, 2. That rebellion against such a Government as ours, and especially by those who have ever enjoyed their full share of its protection, honors, and rich blessings of every name, can have no excuse or palliation, and can be inspired by no other motives than those of ambition and avarice, and can find no parallel, except in the first two great rebellions—that which assailed the throne of heaven directly, and that which peopled our world with miserable apostates. [24]

Resolved, 3. That whatever diversity of sentiment may exist among us, respecting international wars, or an appeal to the sword, for the settlement of points of honor or interest between independent nations, we are all of one mind on the subject of rebellion, and especially against the best government which God has yet given to the world; that our vast army now in the field is to be looked upon as one great police force, organized to carry into effect the Constitution and laws which the insurgents, in common with other citizens, have ordained by their own voluntary acts, and which they are bound by honor and oath and conscience to respect and obey; so that the strictest advocates of peace may bear an active part in this deadly struggle for the life of the Government.

Resolved, 4. That while we have been utterly shocked at the deep depravity of the men who have planned and matured this rebellion, and who are now clad in arms, manifested in words and deeds, there is another class found in the loyal States, who have excited a still deeper loathing—some in Congress, some high in civil life, and some in the ordinary walks of business, who never utter a manly thought or opinion in favor of the Government, but they follow it, by way of comment, with two or three smooth apologies for Southern insurrectionists; presenting the difference between an open and avowed enemy in the field, and a secret and insidious foe in the bosom of our own family.

Resolved, 5. That, in our opinion, this whole insurrectionary movement can be traced to one primordial root, and to one only—African Slavery, and the love of it, and a determination to make it perpetual; and, while we look upon this war as having one grand end in view—the restoration of the Union by crushing out the last living and manifested fibre of rebellion—we hold that everything—the institution of Slavery, if need be—must be made to bend to this one great purpose: and, while, under the influence of humanity and Christian benevolence, we may commiserate the condition of the ruined rebels, once in fraternity with ourselves, but now—should the case occur—despoiled of all that makes the world dear to them, we must be at the same time constrained to feel, that the retribution has been self-inflicted, and must add, "*Fiat justitia, ruat cœlum.*"

Resolved, 6. That we have great confidence in Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and in his Cabinet; and in the commanders of our armies and our navy, and the valiant men of this Republic, prosecuting a holy warfare under their banners; and, while we bless God that he has stood by them, and cheered them on in what we trust will ever stand as the darkest days of our country's humiliation, and crowned them with many signal victories, and knowing that ultimate success is with God alone, we will ever pray, that the last sad note of anarchy and misrule may soon die away, and the old flag of our country, radiant with stripes and brilliant with stars, may again wave over a great, and undivided, and happy people.

Resolved, 7. That we here, in deep humiliation for our sins and [25] the sins of the nation, and in heartfelt devotion, lay ourselves, with all that we are and have, on the altar of God and our country; and we hesitate not to pledge the churches and Christian people under our care, as ready to join with us in the same fervent sympathies and united prayers, that our rulers in the Cabinet and our commanders in the field and on the waters, and the brave men under their leadership, may take courage under the assurance, that "The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America" are with them, in heart and hand, in life and effort, in this fearful existing conflict.

Resolved, finally, That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the officers of the General Assembly, be forwarded to His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, accompanied by the following respectful letter:

To the President of the United States:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, holding its annual sessions in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, in transmitting the accompanying resolutions, beg leave most respectfully to express to your Excellency, in a more personal manner, the sentiments of our Church, in reference to yourself and the great issues with which you are called to deal.

It is with no desire to bring a tribute of flattery, when we assure you, honored sir, of the affection and the confidence of our Church. Since the day of your inauguration, the thousands of our membership have followed you with unceasing prayer, besieging the throne of Heaven in your behalf. In our great church courts, in our lesser judicatories, in our weekly assemblages in the house of God, at our family altars, in the inner place of prayer, you have been the burden of our hourly petitioning.

When we look at the history of your administration hitherto, and at the wonderful way in which this people have been led under your guidance, we glorify God in you. We give praise, not to man, but to God. In your firmness, your integrity, challenging the admiration of even our enemies, your moderation, your wisdom, the timeliness of your acts exhibited at critical junctures, your paternal words, so eminently fitting the chosen head of a great people, we recognize the hand and the power of God; we devoutly and humbly accept it as from Him, an answer to the innumerable prayers which have gone up from our hearts.

We desire, as a Church, to express to you our reverence, our love, our deep sympathy with you in the greatness of your trust, and in the depth of your personal bereavements; and to pledge you as in the past, so in all the future, our perpetual remembrance of you before God, and all the support that loyal hearts can offer.

We have given our sons to the army and navy; some of our ministers and many of our church-members have died in hospital and field; we are glad that we gave them, and we exult in that they were true even to death. We gladly pledge as many more as the cause of our country may demand. [26]

We believe that there is but one path before this people: this gigantic and inexpressibly wicked rebellion must be destroyed; the interests of humanity, the cause of God and his Church, demand it at our hands. May God give to you his great support, preserve you, impart to you more than human wisdom, and permit you ere long to rejoice in the deliverance of our beloved country in its peace and unity.

Immediately upon the adoption of this report, the Assembly united in fervent prayer for the country, the President, and all the officers of the Government, and for the success of our arms in suppressing the rebellion and restoring the blessings of peace.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

In view of the great demand that is laid upon the practical beneficence of the country, in behalf especially of the sick and wounded soldiers of our army, by the present rebellion, it is thought to be not inappropriate, nay, peculiarly in keeping with the spirit and example of the great Head of the Church, that such action should be taken by this Assembly, as shall awaken an increased interest in this good cause throughout all the churches and communities which we represent.

Much, doubtless, has been done for the soldier in every loyal portion of the country; but facts, here brought immediately before our eyes, show, that those sections farther removed from the seats of war do not yet appreciate the importance and the vastness of this work, as it is felt and nobly borne by this and other cities of the West. And yet even here, where the terrible fruits of Fort Donelson and Pittsburgh Landing have been so abundantly seen, it is believed that only a mere beginning has been made, in comparison with the sanitary relief that will be demanded during the months to come. The warm weather of summer is now approaching, and the thousands of brave men, who will be prostrated by sickness, will doubtless lay a claim upon the sympathy and effort of the churches and the country, such as we have never known before.

In consideration of these facts, and the whole subject before us,

Be it resolved by this Assembly, 1. That the present struggle for the preservation of our common country is one in which it is the privilege, as well as the duty, of all patriotic men of whatever section to bear as nearly as may be an equal part; and that, especially in the work of caring for the sick and wounded, the vast degrees of local interest should be extended and made universal; and that the efforts which are put forth, at points nearer the actual scenes of suffering, should be fully emulated by every community over which the flag of our Union is permitted to float.

2. That no form of beneficence in this eventful time can be more needed, and more fruitful of sure and perceptible relief, than that which provides for the health and comfort of the soldiers who crowd our hospitals, and still more those whom it is impossible to remove from the distant battle-fields. [27]

3. That the Assembly earnestly recommend to all our Presbyteries and churches the United States Sanitary Commission, an efficient branch of which exists in this city, as the very best channel through which to reach the sick and wounded of the army. It is thoroughly organized, possessed of all needful facts, and now acting with that system and economy which only an enlarged experience can secure.

A communication was received from Prof. Davis, director, inviting the members of the Assembly to visit the Cincinnati Observatory. The invitation was accepted for Saturday evening, and the thanks of the Assembly returned.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was spent in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons:

Rev. Henry W. Ballantine,	of the Presbytery of	Salem.
" Mason Noble,	"	Dist. of Columbia.
" Perry C. Baldwin,	"	Maumee.
" Thomas S. Johnston,	"	Philadel., Third.
" Samuel J. White,	"	Otsego.
" Benjamin M. Goldsmith,	"	Geneva.
" Charles R. French,	"	Dubuque.
" Joseph S. Lord,	"	Milwaukee.
Mr. John L. Ketcham,	"	Indianapolis.
" Daniel H. Smith,	"	New York, Third.
Hon. Edward A. Lambert,	"	Brooklyn.
Franklin S. Slosson, M. D.,	"	Cleveland.
Mr. James Patterson,	"	St. Louis.
Hon. John Niles,	"	Catskill.
Mr. David H. Taylor,	"	Saginaw.
" David K. Butts,	"	Utica.
" Benjamin Jacobson,	"	Otsego.
" Theophilus Trenchard,	"	Philadel., Fourth.
" Seth W. Magie,	"	Newark.
" Erastus Wolcott,	"	Trumbull.
" Nathaniel S. Bouton,	"	Chicago.
" J. Culbertson Reynolds,	"	Logansport.
" Robert Wilson,	"	Chemung.
" Jeremiah W. Selby,	"	Minnesota. [28]

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Committee, appointed by the last General Assembly, on the subject of Systematic Benevolence, presented a report, which was accepted, and put on the docket.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Geneva, Genesee, Onondaga, Ithaca, New York and New Jersey, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Peoria, and Pennsylvania, were severally presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written. The reports were adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Wabash reported, recommending that they be approved, with the following exceptions:

1. That the Narrative is not recorded in the Minutes, as our church order requires. (See New Digest, page 141.)
2. That they are not signed by the Stated Clerk, as our church order requires. (See New Digest, page 141.)
3. Standing Committees are left standing, instead of being recorded as discharged.
4. Members of Committees are not designated as ministers or as elders.

The report was adopted.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Susquehanna, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Alta California, and Missouri reported that the records had not been put into their hands. The reports were respectively adopted, and the Committees discharged.

The second order of the day, viz., the report of the Standing Committee on the annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, was taken up; and, pending its discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived.

The Assembly was invited by the Hon. William S. Groesbeck and lady to a reception at their house on Saturday evening. The invitation was accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly returned.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity for the Sabbath.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the report of the Standing Committee on the annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, was taken up, and, after discussion and amendment, was adopted, and is as follows: [29]

The Committee, to whom was referred the tenth annual report of the Publication Committee, report that they have considered the same. The present condition of the Publication cause, as presented in that report, is one which, in the judgment of your Committee, demands the most earnest and serious attention of the Assembly. Those, to whose management this great interest is committed, are unwilling to continue in the work, unless some provision adequate to the importance of the enterprise is made. Nor is it strange that they should feel thus. The expense is altogether too great for the profit. A work which has received, during the past year, only a little over five thousand dollars in contributions from the churches, and fourteen thousand dollars from sales, and which costs the Assembly over four thousand dollars, may well lead that Committee to pause, and to speak to the Assembly as they do in the close of their report. They feel as high-minded Christian men will always feel under such circumstances.

At this point, therefore, your Committee think, the Assembly should review the whole subject of this enterprise, in the light which the ten years of its history have thrown upon it; and this body should state clearly and distinctly to the churches what its purpose and its policy are in carrying forward this work, and the reasons which call for its vigorous prosecution. It is not to be disguised, that there are doubts in the minds of many of our intelligent people in reference to the necessity or the expediency of the enterprise as it is at present conducted. The smallness of the contributions from the churches to this cause shows clearly enough, that there is a serious difficulty here—one which will continue to be felt, until it is clearly and adequately met and removed. The churches must first see the necessity of sustaining the enterprise, before they will gird themselves for the work.

The question that must be settled is the necessity of such an enterprise as is now contemplated. The churches saw the importance of this cause as it was presented to them in the beginning, and were ready and willing to contribute all that was necessary to effect the end then designed. In 1852, when this matter was first presented to the churches by the General Assembly, the object, as thus set forth, was the publication of such "tracts as would clearly and distinctly exhibit our peculiarities of doctrine, government, and missionary policy," and this for the purpose of disabusing the public mind in relation to our position in reference to these things. It was not the intention, then, to enter upon the business "of making many books," of which "there is no end." but to accomplish their object through existing printing establishments. In 1857 this simple and economical purpose was changed, and the Assembly of that year encouraged the Committee to enlarge the basis of their operations, and to publish not only such works as present the peculiarities of our branch of the Christian Church in doctrine and practice, but from time to time to publish such "works of an evangelical character as may be profitable to the Church at large." Hence the departure from the original plan, and the commencement of a general publication enterprise. [30]

Here, in relation to this enlargement, the churches want light; and they must have it, ere they can be brought into any hearty and substantial co-operation in this work. They see and feel the necessity of an enterprise that has for its object the end originally proposed in this work, viz., the publication, through existing agencies, of such works as clearly and distinctly exhibit our peculiar views of doctrine, government, and missionary policy, and they are willing to contribute all that is necessary to effect that object; but when this plan is changed, and the Assembly establishes a general publication agency, whose object is not only to put forth such works as are above named, but to furnish an evangelical literature for the Church at large, they stop, and hesitate, and ask: Why multiply machinery in order to do what is already done as cheaply by other agencies as it can be done by this? And they have reason to feel thus; for, as long as the Assembly opens its doors to other publication agencies, and commends them, as this and previous Assemblies have done, to the confidence and patronage of the churches, is it strange that they ask: Where is the necessity of their doing what is already done, and is being done, by others, and with the indorsement of the Assembly upon it? They say, and they say rightly, that the Assembly must shut its doors and withhold its indorsement from these irresponsible and outside agencies, and show the necessity of taking the publication of an evangelical literature for the Church into its own hands, and of keeping it under its own watchful eye, or abandon the idea of entering the lists with those agencies, and of looking to the churches for that pecuniary aid which is necessary to success in such an enterprise. They cannot be induced to sustain a new agency in doing what is done by other agencies, and especially as long as the work done by those other agencies has the approval and commendation of the Assembly. If the Assembly should return to its original plan, it will be sustained by the churches, and all the means necessary to publish such books as clearly and distinctly exhibit our peculiarities of doctrine, government, and missionary policy, can easily be procured. The churches will cheerfully and fully sustain such an enterprise.

To another point connected with the Publication cause, your Committee would call the special attention of the Assembly—viz., the Psalmody of the Church. The General Assembly has ever regarded itself as charged with the supervision of this subject. It has from time to time given attention to it, and the effort has ever been to secure uniformity in this particular. It has accordingly, after great labor and no little expense, obtained a book of sacred psalmody, which your Committee believe to be the best collection of the kind in existence; and successive Assemblies have given it their most cordial recommendation to the churches. But, up to the present time, many of the churches connected with the General Assembly have not introduced it into their worship. And what is still more to be regretted, attempts are made, in one quarter and another, by irresponsible persons, and without the consent and approbation of the General Assembly, to introduce other books of [31] psalmody, and to exclude the book prepared and recommended by the highest judicatory of our Church. In the opinion of your Committee, it is of the very highest importance that the churches, in conformity with the apostolic injunction, not only all speak the same things, but that they also sing the same words. The unity of the body depends in no small degree upon it. The hallowed associations, that gather around these sacred utterances, have their influence in working one and the self-same spirit in all parts of the Church, and in making "increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." If these side issues are countenanced by the Assembly, and these different systems of psalmody are introduced into the churches, one great cord of union will be sundered. In some of these books, the distinction between psalms and hymns is entirely obliterated, and all are set forth as hymns, and persons are becoming accustomed to the words of a particular psalm, not as such, but as the words of a particular hymn. There is a substantial reason for singing the words of the inspired Psalmist as his—reason for connecting the utterance and the melody as directly as possible with the inspired record, and for bringing the intellect and heart most fully under its influence.

The Assembly, moreover, owes it to itself, and to all interested in the circulation of the "Church Psalmist," to discourage the introduction of other books of this kind into the churches, and ought to do all in its power to increase the circulation of its own book, to use the most energetic means to induce the use of the same in all the churches.

Your Committee feel that the Assembly is greatly indebted to the churches in Philadelphia, and to the gentlemen of the Permanent Committee, for the time and the means which they have so generously bestowed upon this cause in thus far sustaining it.

Your Committee, in conclusion, recommend that

Whereas, The Publication Committee have purchased the right, at considerable expense, of printing and issuing the "Church Psalmist," and the compiler of the book has given his right to the same to the General Assembly, on condition that they allow him a moderate copyright for ten years only, four of which have already expired; and

Whereas, These measures were adopted for the double purpose of furnishing our churches with a more perfect collection of psalms and hymns than is elsewhere to be found in use, and of forming a bond of union among them; therefore—

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly hereby instruct the several Presbyteries under their care to institute, at their next stated meetings, an inquiry on the subject of Psalmody, in order to ascertain what churches use our own book, and what churches use other books not authorized by any act of the General Assembly, and not answering to the description stated in our Digest.

Resolved, 2. That each Presbytery is hereby instructed to call the attention of the several sessions under its care, to the desirable[32]ness and importance of securing a uniform system of psalmody, by adopting our own book, and that they take such measures as may be deemed expedient to secure this object, and thus strengthen the bonds of union among the churches, and secure a considerable fund to our General Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That the following persons be appointed to fill the vacancies in the Presbyterian Publication Committee, viz.: Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. Ezra E. Adams, and Mr. W. E. Tenbrook.

The Committee also recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

That this Assembly take up and consider the whole subject of the Publication cause, and settle clearly and definitely its course of action for the future, and give to the churches the reasons for that course.

After an extended discussion, this resolution was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Hiram H. Kellogg, Rev. Baxter Dickinson, D. D., Mr. George W. Tew, Hon. William H. Brown, and Mr. William A. Booth; to consider and report to the next General Assembly.

The Judicial Committee reported that no business had been put into their hands, and the Committee was discharged.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made an additional report, for the supply of various pulpits of the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Closed with prayer.

Saturday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was spent in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons:

Rev. Dwight M. Seward,	of the	Presbytery of	New York, Third.
" Thomas A. Weed,	"	"	Oswego.
" Samuel Loomis,	"	"	Catskill.
" George P. Folsom,	"	"	Ontario.
Mr. Thomas Wilson,	"	"	Galena.
" Ephraim Cone,	"	"	Ontario. [33]
" Stephen G. Gould,	"	"	Newark.
" Isaac E. Brush,	"	"	Cleveland.
" Caleb R. Adams,	"	"	Rochester.
" John H. Catlin,	"	"	Schuyler.
Geo. W. Brundage, M.D.,	"	"	Geneva.
James S. Skidmore, M. D.,	"	"	Long Island.
Hon. Israel S. Spencer,	"	"	Onondaga.
Harry Allen, M. D.,	"	"	Rochester.
Mr. Orren Hughett,	"	"	Cayuga.
" Richard Edwards,	"	"	Dubuque.

The report was accepted.

Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., secretary of the American and Foreign Christian Union, by invitation addressed the Assembly, in regard to the work in which that Society is engaged.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 3,—a resolution, that the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions be directed to consider and adopt some plan, by which vacant churches and unemployed ministers may be brought to the knowledge of each other, and report by resolution or otherwise; and they recommended its adoption. The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 4, from certain members of the Presbytery of Athens, asking "whether it is allowable, for a Presbytery and a church under its charge to dissolve their connection by mutual consent, the church retaining its organization and standing as an independent body."

The Committee recommended that the following answer be given:

The only proper method of dissolving the relation between a Presbytery and a church desiring to become an independent body is, for such church to withdraw, declining the further jurisdiction of the Presbytery; and the

Presbytery to make such a record of its withdrawal, as the character of the action of the withdrawing church requires.

The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 5, in regard to the will of the Rev. William Hanford; the Committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be, and he hereby is, authorized to join in the execution of the deed, or make a separate one, if more desirable, for the real estate specifically set forth in the will of the Rev. William Hanford, in accordance with the request of the executors of said will.

The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 6, from the Presbytery of Catskill, asking whether, in cases of judicial process by church sessions, the testimony of witnesses should be engrossed on the book of permanent Record. The Committee recommended that the following answer be given:

The testimony of witnesses, in all cases of judicial process by church sessions, should be engrossed on the book of permanent [34] Records. The end to be secured by such a record is indicated in our Book of Discipline, Chap. IV., sec. 23, where it is required, that everything which had an influence on the judgment of the court must be exhibited by the Record. Files are liable to be separated from the book of permanent Records; and nothing but what is contained in the Record may be taken into consideration in reviewing the proceedings in a superior court.

The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 7, from the session of the church of Wabash, Indiana, on the following questions:

"1. After the Records of a church session have been examined and approved by the Presbytery, and those of the Presbytery, in like manner, approved by the Synod, has either the session or the Presbytery a right or any authority to change or erase the Record?

"2. If not, has the session any legal right to make a second record, declaring the first erroneous and void?"

The Committee recommended that the following answer be given:

A Record, once approved by a higher court, cannot be altered or annulled by a lower one. If there be an error in the Record, the remedy is to be sought by an application to the highest judicatory that has indorsed such mistake.

The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 8, from Professor Hopkins, of Auburn Theological Seminary, asking the Assembly "so to interpret Chapter XIV., sections 4 and 5 of the Book of Discipline, as to authorize Presbyteries, either to require of each candidate for licensure, 'a Latin exegesis on some common head in divinity,' or, at their discretion, to test his knowledge of the Latin language by some other similar exercise."

The Committee recommended that no action be taken on the subject by this Assembly.

The recommendation was adopted.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 3, from the Presbytery of Indianapolis, as follows: "Is it contrary to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church to elect elders for a definite period?" And they recommended that the answer be given, in the language of the General Assembly of 1852, viz.: "The most obvious and natural construction of our Form of Government does not contemplate a rotary eldership; and, while such an organization of a session is not anti-Presbyterial, yet the Assembly would discourage the adoption of the principle in our Church, from respect to the plain meaning of our rule; but nothing in this resolution is intended to disturb the relations of those churches, which have adopted the principle of a limited period in the service of elders."

The recommendation was adopted.

The following resolution was adopted:

This Assembly have heard with interest the statements, which have been made by the president of the Elmira Female College, [35] concerning the founding, character, success, and prospects of that institution, which is now intimately related to our Church, by being committed to the care of the Synod of Geneva. The Assembly with pleasure recognize the liberality of Mr. Simeon Benjamin, an elder of the First Presbyterian church in Elmira, who has generously donated the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars for the endowment of the College; and, with a full conviction of the great value of such superior Christian institutions for the education of the daughters of the Church, and as a means of invaluable influence upon those young women who have had no religious training at home, they cordially commend this College to the prayers and beneficence of all friends of a thorough Christian education.

Resolved, That the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions be instructed to confer with the American Home Missionary Society, and arrange with them to secure for Presbyterian churches the use of legacies and other funds, from Presbyterian sources, that from time to time may have, or shall, come into their treasury.

Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, publisher of the *Presbyterian Historical Almanac*, was heard in regard to that publication. And the following *Committee* was appointed to bring in a minute on the subject: Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. Albert H. Corliss, and Rev. Henry Bergen.

The report of the Standing Committee on Education, in relation to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education, was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education beg leave to report as follows:

It appears from the papers submitted to our examination, that at no time since the action of the Assembly, constituting the Permanent Committee on Education, have the prospects of this department of Church action been so hopeful as at present.

It has required five years of earnest and patient labor to secure the field, which, until now, has been occupied by local agencies. These several agencies, springing up by the side of collegiate and theological institutions, have done an important work, in promoting the cause of Education, in periods when it lacked general sympathy. They have now transferred these respective fields to the Assembly's Committee, out of regard to the welfare of the entire Church, and in the expectation that the burden, which has rested so unequally upon particular sections, will be sustained by the Church as a body, with means proportionate to the exigencies of the work.

These ends are contemplated in the plan adopted by the last Assembly; and, should they fail to be realized, this cause would be retarded at a most critical period, dishonor cast upon the Church, and every interest, which God has committed to her trust, imperilled. There is but one way to avoid a result so deplorable; and that is, to meet, with united and impartial action, the responsibilities of the work, thus taken from separate agencies and placed [36] under our exclusive control. There is where it belongs, in training a competent ministry to lead on the distinct and blessed mission, given us by the great Head of the Church, in the evangelization of the world.

In view of the difficulties which have environed this whole subject in the past, the results already achieved, as exhibited in the report of the Permanent Committee, call for the marked approval and grateful recognition of the General Assembly.

The finances of the Committee have been managed with scrupulous exactness and strict economy; and at various times have been supplemented by generous personal contributions.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions by the Assembly:

Resolved, 1. That, as the ministry is appointed of Christ, the chief and indispensable instrumentality in advancing and perpetuating the interests of His kingdom on the earth, the General Assembly do recognize the solemn responsibility of the Church, to seek, by prayer and enlarged liberality, such an increase and continued succession of able and faithful ministers, as shall keep pace with the growth of our country, the advance of material prosperity, the progress of popular education, and especially the rapidly widening fields of missionary labor, both at home and abroad.

Resolved, 2. That it should be the purpose of the Church, to render the Education Fund adequate to the wants of the cause, and that the Assembly regard the faithful observance of Article V. of the Plan, which recommends a collection to be taken in each congregation for the same, as essential to its vigorous and just working over the entire field.

Resolved, 3. That, to secure impartial and united action throughout the Church, it is necessary that all contributions should be disbursed from the general treasury, under the Assembly's rules; and, when in any case additional provision may be deemed necessary, it should be so made as not to diminish the general fund.

Resolved, 4. That, as the whole responsibility of selecting and recommending candidates for pecuniary aid devolves upon the Presbyteries, they be enjoined to a strict observance of the first of the Assembly's rules, prescribing the qualifications of such candidates.

Resolved, 5. That the Assembly commend the "Education Manual," published under direction of the Permanent Committee, as containing the information requisite to an intelligent understanding of the Plan in all its practical workings.

The Committee would nominate the following persons as members of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, to serve for three years from the present time, viz.: Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, Alfred C. Post, M. D., and Mr. Charles A. Davison; also Mr. Fisher Howe, to fill a vacancy in the class whose term of office expires May, 1864. [37]

The same Committee recommended the adoption of the following minute, in relation to the written reports from the New York Union, the Auburn, and the Lane Theological Seminaries, which had been referred to their consideration:

It is with great satisfaction that the Assembly learns, that these institutions, notwithstanding the disturbed state of the country, have maintained, to so large a degree, a healthful and prosperous condition. The number of students, the success of efforts to increase their pecuniary resources, and the prospect of permanency not only, but of continually increasing influence and efficiency, are most gratifying items in these reports.

The Assembly would commend anew the Seminaries and higher institutions of learning, which are in sympathetic connection with our Church, to the prayerful interest and Christian liberality of our congregations; also to the confidence of our young men desiring a liberal education, and more particularly such as are looking forward to the Christian ministry.

The recommendation was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., the Treasurer of the Church Erection Fund, and of the Permanent Committee on Education, for the gratuitous and faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office.

The Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Charles Robinson, Mr. John H. Sprague, and Hon. Edward A. Lambert, were appointed to consider as to the propriety of increasing the appropriations, in certain cases, from the Church Erection Fund, and to report to the next General Assembly.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Closed with prayer.

Saturday, May 24th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolved, That the Permanent Committees be instructed to furnish to the Assembly, with their annual reports, a printed abstract of the same for the use of the Assembly.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute in reference to the *Presbyterian Historical Almanac*, presented the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, The *Presbyterian Historical Almanac* is an annual remembrancer of the Church, being a volume of facts, and not of opinions, embracing the acts and deliverances of each body of [38] the whole Presbyterian family, with biographies of our deceased brethren, and historical sketches of Presbyterian churches, and is a wide dissemination of such intelligence throughout the Church ; therefore,

Resolved, That the *Presbyterian Historical Almanac*, prepared and published by Joseph M. Wilson of Philadelphia, be cordially recommended to the members of the churches under the care of the General Assembly.

Resolved, That the Special Committee appointed by the last General Assembly, to report on the subject of raising a fund to be applied to the aid of disabled ministers and their families,—the said Committee, consisting of Hon. Joseph Allison, and Messrs, Matthew W. Baldwin, Joseph H. Dulles, and Samuel C. Perkins,—be continued, and instructed to report to the next Assembly; and that Rev. J. Glentworth Butler be added to the Committee.

Resolved, That the Special Committee, appointed by the last General Assembly to report on Overture No. 3, presented to the said Assembly through its Committee of Bills and Overtures, (see p. 472, of Minutes, 1861,)—the said Committee, consisting of Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D.D., LL.D., Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., and Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, D. D., be continued, and instructed to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence beg leave to submit to the General Assembly, that, whereas it both fulfils the requirements of our excellent Church polity, and facilitates the business of the Assembly, and also should be regarded as both a duty and a privilege for elders as well as ministers to attend its sessions;

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, That elders and ministers, who from time to time may represent the Presbyteries in General Assembly, be earnestly requested to arrange their business, as far as possible, before leaving home, that they may remain to the end of its sessions, and thus fulfil their high commissions, and enjoy the valued privileges as members of the highest judicatory of our Church.

The resolution was adopted.

The report of the Committee on the union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, was taken from the docket, considered, adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the temper of these Overtures meets the hearty approval of the Assembly, entirely accordant, as it is, with that spirit of brotherly affection toward other denominations, and of co-operation in matters of common interest, which has marked our whole history.

Resolved, 2. That, while we have ever regretted the divisive acts of 1837, deeming them at variance alike with the Constitution of our Church and the Word of God, we have never cherished an unkind or exacting spirit; as has been evinced in various ways, particularly in the proposal, made by us some years since, to gather, with our brethren of the other Assembly, around the table of our common Lord. [39]

Resolved, 3. That it would give us pleasure to unite, in the closest fellowship, with all persons who can stand with us on the basis of our Confession of Faith and Book of Discipline; and who substantially agree with us on the great moral questions of the day—in the matter, especially, of loyalty to the Government, and in the views of Slavery set forth, prior to the division, in the deliverance of 1818.

Resolved, 4. That, while we bear in remembrance the prayer of our Lord, that his disciples may be one, and while we can see some special advantages to be derived from a reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church; we do not perceive, that, beyond the preceding declaration of our views, anything remains for us, at the present, but to await humbly and teachably the movements of Divine Providence.

The report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

The annual report of the Assembly's Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions is a document of the greatest interest and importance. As a history of all our operations, for the past ecclesiastical year, in the great work of sending the Gospel to the heathen, and saving a lost race—obligation to which rests on every church organically, and on every individual member—it is most elaborate and complete, and should be carefully read and pondered by all. It contains suggestions and recommendations, to which the Assembly cannot fail to add the impression and weight of its official sanction.

The Assembly contemplates, with pain, the fact that appears on their Minutes, that the contributions of the churches to Foreign Missions were even less last year than the preceding, though the demand has in all points been greater.

Perhaps this may be partly owing to the disturbances of the times. Though this may be justly in some measure admitted, yet let it be remembered, that, in the present great struggle for national life, only as we serve Christ, can we hope to prevail. And in this hour of rebuke and trouble, and we trust, too, the hour of revived and lasting recognition of Divine control over national destiny, it surely is no time to fail in generosity towards Him who is our only help, and in the advance of whose kingdom is our only hope.

The Assembly see no remedy for this mortifying deficiency, but in a more general and a deeper remembrance of obligation to Christ, leading to more self-denying love to Him, and in adopting and carrying out the principle of systematic benevolence in all our churches and by every member, according to a known law, that the amount depends not so much on individual munificence as on the multitude of givers. The influence of giving is too important and decided on Christian character and on personal piety to be in the least restricted. Prayer and alms-giving are in Scripture [40] equally indicative of the truth and genuineness of a Christian profession.

In the judgment of this Assembly, we are, as a Church, entirely behind our ability and consequent duty on this point; and the Assembly would solemnly charge the Presbyteries to seek out and qualify young men, who will, for the love of Christ, go forth and, if needs be, die on foreign shores; and also to enjoin on their churches to see to it, that the support of such young men of the true martyr spirit shall be made sure.

We are avowedly a missionary Church, and must show it by our deeds. And the fact is manifest on an inspection of our statistics that, on the lowest estimate a Christian man can make, the amount, instead of being, as in the last year, $71,000, may be $250,000. If one-tenth of our communicants gave only three and one-third cents a day, or one dollar a month, and another tenth gave one cent a day, and two-tenths gave a half cent a day, and the remaining six-tenths, and more than half of our whole number of communicants, gave only one cent a week, the result would be $246,000 a year, instead of the $71,000 contributed this year, and 134 missionaries in the foreign field, instead of 54.

The Assembly also note with pleasure the fact, that every possible facility is furnished our missionaries abroad, in carrying out the wishes of the Assembly in reference to their ecclesiastical relations. This is apparent, from the statement, that of the twenty-one mission stations where our missionaries are engaged in their work, there are sixteen, at each one of which there are numbers sufficient to form a Presbytery, if the brethren are so disposed and deem it advisable, while at the one remaining station, circumstances alone prevent it.

A memorial has been received from the Presbytery of Detroit, addressed to the General Assembly, desiring them to establish independent missions in Mexico and in Central and Southern America. This is the third time a memorial on that subject has been submitted. The Committee have given it serious and earnest consideration, and recommend that this memorial be referred to a Special Committee, to consider and report to the next General Assembly.

The term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions expires with this Assembly: Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. D.W. Poor, D. D., Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, D. D., Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D., and Mr. John A. Brown. The Committee recommend that they be re-appointed.

The Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. Joseph S. Travelli, and Messrs. Horace Hallock, and Ebenezer Cheney, were appointed a *Committee on the Memorial.*

The annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House was presented and approved; and the Assembly proceeded to fill the vacancies in the Board. Whereupon the following persons were duly elected to serve for two years: Rev. Thomas Brain[41]erd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, and Samuel C. Perkins, Esq.

The following persons were elected members of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years: Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Stephen H. Thayer, Esq.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to address to the several Presbyteries, previous to January, 1863, a circular, urging them to a full and faithful compliance with the Assembly's plan for providing the amount necessary for the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly.

Messrs. Fisher Howe, John H. Sprague, and Joseph F. Joy, were appointed the *Auditing Committee* of the Church Erection Fund.

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee of the last Assembly on Systematic Benevolence, presented a report, which was accepted; and the report of the Special Committee, having been modified, was adopted, and is as follows:

To honor the Lord with our property has been a Christian duty and an act of Christian worship in all ages and dispensations of the Church. The offerings unto God, in the patriarchal period, were acts of devotion and thanksgiving, as well as sacrifice. The costly gifts for the building of the temple, and the temple service, with the rendering of tithes for the support of the priesthood and the public worship of God, systematically bestowed, mark the happiest period in the history of the Jews, the most prosperous in Church and State.

In the sayings of our Lord and the writings of the apostles, the importance attached to alms-giving, for the purposes of aiding the poor and extending the Gospel; and the frequency and plainness with which it was urged; and the prominence given to it as a sacred duty, an act of Christian principle, an object of deliberation, leave us no room to doubt that, in all the history of the Church, till the millennium at least, one of the leading evidences of true godliness is a benevolent disposition, a systematic and wise beneficence for the sake of God's kingdom.

In the Jewish dispensation, the prophets uttered the bitterest imprecations on those who, through carelessness or avarice, withheld the appointed tithes and offerings; showing that it was the reason why the Lord, on his part, had withheld both spiritual and material prosperity. If this were so, in a dispensation when the Church was confined to a single nation, how much more in the Christian dispensation, in which "the field is the world," and the duty of the Church is to "preach the Gospel to every creature"! In this dispensation, all religious privileges have been enlarged, and it is to be expected that all the graces of the Spirit, not excepting the grace of beneficence, will abound, and develop themselves in proportion to the greatness of the field of their operations. [42]

A disposition to do good is an essential element of true piety; but how this benevolence shall manifest itself, what forms our beneficence shall assume, are questions so difficult to answer, and the spirit of avarice is so strong, that nothing is more palpable to observation, than that the beneficence of the Church does not fairly represent her ability, or, for want of a proper education, her piety. Great numbers in the Church give nothing systematically, or intelligently, or deliberately. The most that is given to the various causes of benevolence, is given by a few. Systematic beneficence, applied to churches, implies the general consent and co-operation of all, as well as deliberate and certain beneficence on the part of the few, both of which combined, ought to make the beneficence of the Church correspond to her duty and her capacity for well-doing.

In order to secure systematic beneficence in the Church, three questions need to be answered:

I. What objects are worthy of our confidence; and especially by what rule shall the order of their importance be determined?

II. What are the best modes of securing contributions?

III. How shall we best inspire and develop the spirit of beneficence in the whole Church?

That the objects seeking our sympathy and support have been too numerous, it might be difficult to determine; that some of them have proved unworthy of our confidence, needs no proof. Impostors and enthusiasts often delude and overpersuade the benevolent, who find that what they gave at the solicitations of such men has been thrown away. They have been cheated, and are afraid of being deceived again; their generous impulses are repressed, and the fountains of their benevolence dried up.

But God has clearly indicated a line of beneficence which it is always safe to follow. The preaching of the Gospel, and the establishment and ordinances of the Christian Church, are divine methods of saving the world. He has determined, "by the foolishness of preaching, to save them that believe." And he has made it the duty of the Church to extend its own institutions, and "to preach the Gospel to every creature." Whatever secures the extension of the Church and the preaching of the Gospel in its purity, is, so far forth, always worthy of confidence, and commends itself to the benevolence of all Christians. The work of missions, at home and abroad, is almost wholly such a work. The more of preaching, and the less of everything else there is connected with any enterprise, the more worthy of confidence it may be esteemed. But, even then, that which brings the Gospel to bear on the greatest number, is worthy of the greatest confidence. Organizations, whose object is to preach to the outcast, to the poor, to sailors or slaves, to the Jews or the Papists, should never stand so high in the regards of Christian men, as those that preach the Gospel to all men, and seek, from the largest number, to win to Christ, indiscriminately, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, the bond and the free. So that, which promotes the growth of [43] the Church, is in like proportion praiseworthy and commendable.

The Church is ordained of God; and whatever gives it power, and promotes the edification of his people, is worthy of a generous support. Every well-directed effort to furnish a competent ministry, to endow the needed institutions of learning, to build the house of worship, and to furnish a Christian literature, is entitled to our sympathy. And whatever brings people into contact with the Church, or has an organic or vital connection with it, or which is the natural development of the life of the Church, is entitled to far more confidence than any expenditures, or any zealous endeavors, that do not acknowledge, honor, magnify, and build up the Church. Trying every cause by these tests, Christians will seldom mistake. Other causes may demand occasional, perhaps considerable, contributions; but, if Christians will keep continually before them, amidst all applications for aid, the importance of preaching the Gospel to the greatest number possible, of extending the Church to the greatest degree possible, it will aid them greatly in determining the relative importance of the objects which demand their confidence and support.

II. The best mode of securing contributions is not necessarily that which secures, in every instance, the largest contributions; but that which gives play to the grace of beneficence in the greatest number, and which secures cheerfulness and intelligent satisfaction in the act of the donors. In the long run, this method will also secure the largest contributions. The papal population in this country, or any part of it, is mainly made up of the poorer classes. But their contributions are very large, because all the people are expected to give. Their beneficence is thoroughly systematic. Heads of families and little children, domestics, male and female, have urged upon their attention whatever causes of benevolence, local or general, their Church authorities recommend. And the aggregate of their collections is very large.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is also represented as giving largely, though the wealth under control of that denomination is much less than in some others. And, in whatever denomination or Church the effort has been made to bring the causes of benevolence before all the members of the congregation, the sum total has been surprisingly large. The work of beneficence, which is worthy of being kept before the Church year after year, is worthy of being brought home to the attention of every person connected with our congregations. Whatever is worthy of being done, is worthy of being well done. No presentation from the pulpit, on any one Sabbath of the year, can reach all the people. Let such a presentation be made commending the cause, if need be, to the heart and the judgment, but let it be followed by a visitation of the entire congregation, to secure their free-will offerings to the cause. This work may properly be committed to the deacons of the church. But the elders and private members, male and female, will cheerfully contribute their assistance. [44]

If it be objected that such a task becomes a burden, and falls by its own weight, it may be replied, it need not so be. Our Christian and benevolent labors are too much subdivided, and their number has become a weariness that the people cannot away with. Many congregations have from nine to twelve objects of stated benevolence in a year. If they seem burdensome, if the people have formed the habit of treating them all distrustfully, or dismissing them with a mere pittance, let the number be reduced.

3. Let there be a specified time, if possible, some given month, for every cause. Let the cause be eminently worthy. Shut out all that are doubtful; frown upon all that are in irresponsible hands. Let the people be instructed that no application shall be made, through the Church, that the proper authorities in the same do not heartily endorse; and teach them to reserve their largest purely religious charities for only such. And they will soon learn that nothing comes before them which is not worthy to arrest their attention, excite their Christian sensibilities, and be the recipient of their bounty. Let them see that nothing comes before them for petty contributions, or to be thrust aside without a thought; and every such cause will grow in importance and dignity in their apprehension, and become hallowed in their hearts.

If then it be impracticable to visit the whole congregation and take their contributions, let previous notice be given when the collection will be taken in the house of God; at that time let the cause be fully indorsed, if it be worthy, and not be presented if it is not. Let the pews be provided with cards, on which any who may not be prepared to make their contribution that day, may write their names, specify the sums that they will give, and the time when it will be convenient to pay them.

A cause that is not worthy of such notice or care, becomes despicable; and any worthy object thus neglected and treated with indifference, cannot fail to become despicable in the eyes of all the people. Thus to thrust any high and noble object of Christian benevolence out of the house of God, or let it come in with no fair recognition, is to offer an insult to God, and wound the Savior in the house of his friends.

It is not the frequency of collections that makes them burdensome, so much as it is the multiplicity of objects that are complicated one with another, the subdivisions of those that are essentially one. The people become perplexed, then disgusted; they will more readily give twelve contributions to one cause which they understand and see to be necessary, than to six causes of which they know but little, and see the necessity still less.

It has often been suggested, that particular Sabbaths be designated for simultaneous collections for given causes throughout all the churches in our connection, that alms-giving and supplication touching that cause may be in concert. But such a course seems impracticable. The Assembly has recommended, that collections in all the churches be taken up for the cause of Ministerial Education, either the Sabbath before or the Sabbath after the Concert of [45] Prayer for Colleges and other institutions of learning. And yet, in very many instances, it is found impossible to observe the recommendation. Let every church, as far as possible, designate for itself given months or specified Sabbaths in the year, for the leading objects of beneficence; and to that extent it becomes systematic, and secures every advantage that we could obtain by any attempted concert of action throughout the whole Church.

III. How shall we inspire and develop the spirit of beneficence in the whole Church?

This is the great task to be performed. A large number of our churches do not give anything, either systematically or annually, even to those agencies which bear most directly on the world's conversion. To inspire and develop the spirit of beneficence, is to inspire more of the spirit of true godliness. Avarice and general worldliness and unbelief, the common enemies of piety, array themselves against the prevalence of benevolence. Beneficence is piety, and it must be promoted as piety is. It will not grow of itself; it needs careful and wise culture. And it needs to be distinctly stated that the chief responsibility touching the development of this, as of any other grace, must rest on the ministers of Christ.

Many Christians seem to think that the demand for pecuniary contributions is something new, temporary, accidental, and unnecessary. But when they are made to feel that systematic beneficence is systematic piety, and that God has deliberately purposed to furnish the opportunity for the full play and development of every Christian grace, and that their own happiness and usefulness depend upon their growth in grace, they settle down to the pleasant conviction of the importance and blessedness of doing good with their money, as well as by prayer and praise and preaching the Gospel.

The ministers of Christ are very apt to endeavor to awaken the spirit of benevolence, in the breasts of their hearers, only on the very occasions on which they call on them for their contributions. This is, as if a general should never exercise his troops, except in sight of the enemy, or on the morning of the day of battle. It is, as if the runner should be put in training only on the morning of the day set apart to run a race. In all the public prayers and teachings, not only on special occasions and at monthly concerts of prayer, but on all Sabbaths and at all meetings for public prayer, the existence and spirit and need of beneficence should be recognized by the ministers of Christ. Let the necessity for it be taken for granted, and let its larger development be prayed for continually. Then, when a collection is taken up, the people are not taken by surprise, and their previous education and religious attainments will have prepared them to do their duty.

Pastors should not only teach their people the duty and blessedness of Christian beneficence, but should seek to make them intelligent as to all the objects which are most likely to come before them. The denominations which give most generally and [46] most generously, are those, in which pastors make their people acquainted with certain causes, which they are also taught to recognize as a part of their own organization—the development of their church life—as instrumentalities or machinery that belongs to them, and through which they discharge their duties to a fallen world. Let them understand where their money goes; let them understand it minutely. Let pastors inform, and they can hardly fail to interest the people. There may be some zeal without knowledge, but zeal with knowledge is more and better.

Before such a people, no pastor need hesitate or dread to present any worthy cause of benevolence. No stranger, no accredited agent for any organization, need expect to obtain, from such a people, what their pastor can obtain. To whose appeals will the rich, who have much to give, or the poor, who have but little, and wish to have it expended judiciously, respond so freely as to their spiritual guide, whom they have learned to respect and love?

Pastors and elders should aim to secure systematic beneficence. Beneficence will not become systematic of itself. It must be made systematic. System implies deliberation and a plan—fixed times of contribution, and fixed sums, or at fixed rates. The Apostle said to the Corinthians: "On the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store according as God hath prospered him." Here was a plan of systematic beneficence. Here was the call for deliberation, and for the frequent discharge of a sacred duty; and here was the rule to measure the amount of their contributions, viz., according as God had prospered them. Was there ever a better rule, or a better system of beneficence? Why not adopt it? Or if, in the complications of business, such frequent estimates are impossible, why may not the same result be reached in either of the following ways?

1. Let Christians deliberately determine what portion of their income they will devote to the Lord. Let them fix a rate and solemnly abide by it. Let it be a fixed rate for a given year, or for life: or let it be a given rate, till their property shall amount to a certain sum, and then some higher rate; or

2. Let them solemnly resolve, that, if the Lord shall prosper them to the attainment of a certain amount, all their income in the future shall be solemnly devoted to the service of the Lord. After such vows, in some instances, men have met with great prosperity, and been able to do very much for the cause of Christ.

Let pastors, if possible, secure eminent examples of beneficence in their congregations. Some congregations give very much more than others of equal ability. And it is because the former have been favored with leading men of great liberality. Men are influenced by example. If they see one of their brethren, whose ability to give they know to be no greater than their own, actually giving far more than they thought to do, they see another man's estimate of their own ability. And, when men have once been induced to give liberally, and see that they are none the poorer for it, they can the more readily be induced to repeat the experiment. [47] And by this process, at length, a whole congregation can be brought to greatly increased liberality.

Let the pastor, therefore, select from his congregation those most likely to respond to his appeals, especially among his young men, and, by personal private conversation, endeavor to secure the habit of liberal beneficence. If the disposition to give be a Christian grace—a gift of the Spirit—why should it not be an object of culture by private pastoral labor, as well as any other Christian grace?

Are not pastors accustomed to seek out, and call out, all those in the congregation whom they think capable of engaging in public, social prayer to the edification of the whole church? Is not a church eminent for giving as praiseworthy as one eminent for prayer? If the spirit of beneficence, like the spirit of prayer, be both a gift from God and a gift attained by culture and pastoral care, why may not the faithful pastor have a benevolent as well as a prayerful church? And, as the Church has multiplied ten-fold, in the last fifty years, her members capable of profitable public prayer,—and to a great extent through the labors of the ministry,—why may not the beneficence of the Church be multiplied ten-fold the next fifty years in like manner?

Finally, the best way to do anything, is to do it! No plan will work itself. But, if the Church has the spirit of any undertaking, it will find some mode of manifestation. There is no mode that is of any value unless it be pervaded by the right spirit. Let the Church set about the work of beneficence with earnestness and the zeal which the wants of the Church demand, and the modes will soon be devised.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That it is a matter of great significance and hearty congratulation, that the objects of the first and of growing importance in our Church are such as are most worthy of our confidence, because they are calculated to give the Gospel to the greatest number of our fellow-men.

Resolved, 2. That different periods of the world have demanded of the Church the special exercise of different gifts; but that, at no former period, has the Church been so well fitted to the full exercise of the grace of Christian beneficence as now, or the world so likely to be profited thereby.

Resolved, 3. That it be recommended to all our pastors to make their congregations acquainted with the scriptural doctrine of Christian beneficence, and faithfully to urge its systematic observance on all their people.

Resolved, 4. That it is the duty of the officers of the church to furnish the opportunity to all the members of the congregation, to aid in spreading the Gospel throughout our country and the whole world.

Resolved, 5. That it is the duty of the officers of the church to [48] determine how many causes of benevolence shall annually come before the congregation, and fix the times for their presentation, and abide by their own order without any aid in the application from abroad.

Resolved, 6. That at the present time the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, and the Committees on Education for the Ministry and of Publication be commended as leading objects for Christian beneficence in our Church.

The Publication Committee were instructed to prepare an abstract of the above report, and publish it for general circulation among our churches.

The Committee, to whom was referred Overture No 1, on Sunday-schools, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 1, concerning the relations of the General Assembly to Sunday-schools, and the religious education of children, beg leave to report:

That they deem the subject of this Overture to be one of primary importance, and its suggestions worthy of the Assembly's deliberate consideration.

While our church is taking hold, with new zeal, and by new methods, of other great and vital enterprises of Christian activity, she must not fail to give particular and effectual attention to the religious instruction and nurture of those, upon whom the sustaining and conducting of all these enterprises must, in a few years, devolve.

This work is not neglected in our churches. Its importance is scarcely anywhere lost sight of. The Sunday-school enterprise is largely developed and vigorously prosecuted; and the vigor and efficiency of this mighty instrumentality for good are rather waxing than waning at the present day.

It is not, therefore, any new enterprise that the Assembly is called upon to inaugurate, or any new and expensive machinery to create and put in operation; but it is called upon to connect itself more closely and manifestly with, and give wise direction to, the powerful instrumentalities which are already at work, and which are presenting themselves as willing offerings to the Church's supervision and use.

Any plan for accomplishing this object could be but crudely prepared, and very imperfectly considered, during the sessions of this Assembly; and your Committee, therefore, recommend, that a Special *Committee* of five persons be appointed to prepare such a plan, and report it to the next General Assembly.

This Committee also recommend that the Stated Clerks of Presbyteries be instructed, to obtain statistical reports of the number of Sunday-schools under the care of each church, the number of teachers and pupils, and the number of additions to the churches [49] from the Sunday-schools during the year, so that these reports may be at the disposal of the next General Assembly

The Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Mr. Alexander Whilldin were appointed to this service.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. Charles N. Mattoon, D. D., of the Presb. of Belvidere.
" Henry Bergen, " Ottawa.
" Christopher M. Nickels, D. D., " Newark.
" William Whittaker, " Columbia.
" William M. Cheever, " Dayton.
" Elizur N. Manley, " Genesee.
" William Herritt, " Schuyler.
" Charles H. Foote, " Alton.
" Elijah W. Stoddard, " Genesee Valley.
Mr. Presley T. McKinney, " Crawfordsville.
" Calvin A. Shaw, " Belvidere.
" John Otto, " Buffalo.
Hon. Henry S. Walbridge, " Ithaca.
Mr. James Lamb, " Madison.
" John Phillips, " Columbus.
" Lewis Keeler, " Marshall.
" M. Miller Gray, " Utica.
" Lewis Stevens, " Watertown.

The Standing Committees reported, that they had no further business to present, and were discharged.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the respective railroad companies, who have generously consented to a reduction of their regular fare, in favor of the Commissioners and others who have been in attendance on our sessions.

Also, to the citizens of Cincinnati and its vicinity, whose hospitality has been so munificently extended to the members of the Assembly, and rendered their sojourn so pleasant and gratefully memorable, with the assurance of our fervent prayers that they [50] and theirs may be abundantly recompensed by the Giver of all good.

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and assiduity in providing for the convenience and comfort of their numerous visitors on this occasion.

Also, to the Trustees of the Second Presbyterian church, for the use of their commodious house of worship and its ample accommodations.

Also, to the choir of the Second Presbyterian church, for their appropriate and excellent services during the sessions of the Assembly.

Also, to the Moderator, the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly, and for the discriminating and Christian courtesy which he has extended to the Commissioners.

Also, to Mrs. Dr. Taylor, for the beautiful and fragrant offering of flowers placed on our tables on each day of its sessions.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without excuse:

Rev. Henry N. Millerd, Rev. Montgomery M. Wakeman, Daniel E. Whitmore, Stephen G. Gould, Harmon Ensign, Rev. Tapping S. Reeve, Benoni Dickerman, Winslow S. Phelps, Stephen Whitlock, Rev. Isaac Delamater, Olly Owen, Rev. Thomas Griffith, Rev. Edward Scofield, Hon. John L. Knight, and John H. Catlin.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the First Presbyterian church, on Washington Square, of the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the third Thursday of May, 1863, at 11 o'clock A. M.

WILLIAM STERLING,
Permanent Clerk, pro tem.

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 24th, 1862.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1862.

IT is with the profoundest gratitude, that we record the mercy of God in his dealings with our beloved Church, during the period which this Narrative reviews.

Just a quarter of a century has elapsed, since that act of excision which divided the Presbyterian Church; and which, in their determination to maintain certain constitutional principles, secured for the Synods of Geneva, Utica, Genesee, and Western Reserve—embracing at that time but twenty-four Presbyteries—the historic distinction of beginning our denominational greatness.

In the present Assembly, Commissioners are in attendance from twenty-two Synods, composed of one hundred and four Presbyteries, with a field of operation extending from Lake Superior to the waters of the Chesapeake, and westward from the Atlantic cities to the mountains and valleys of California.

The steadiness of our remarkable growth, since the event referred to, is indicated in the fact that, gradually increasing from that time, the membership of the Assembly has never been so large as at present; nearly all the Presbyteries being clerically represented, along with a delegation from the eldership greater than ever, showing on their part a deepening concern in its welfare, and a willingness to bear their proportion of the responsibilities and toil incident to the work of the Church.

The reports from the Presbyteries are characterized by thankfulness, humility, and an unfaltering trust in God: thankfulness for what temporal and spiritual prosperity they have variously enjoyed; humility in view of the religious declension which they confess and deplore; and the strongest confidence that, whatever may be their present trials or discouragements, the Great Head of the Church will, in some way, work out in them, and through them, his purpose of infinite mercy.

Revivals have not been general within our bounds during the year past, nor unusually powerful. In some few instances large ingatherings are reported; while upon many places, and, as it is pleasing to know, upon several of our literary institutions, the dews of the Spirit have descended refreshingly. These gracious manifestations succeeded, almost uniformly, close upon the observance of the days of prayer appointed by the last Assembly.

The most happy results are mentioned as having attended special efforts for the conversion of children and youth.

An increased engagedness in the work of Sabbath-schools and catechetical instruction is a noticeable and gratifying fact; and it seems to be the clear indication of God's providence and Spirit, that this department of Christian labor shall be assiduously prosecuted, as the grand hope alike of the Church and the world.

It was hardly to be expected, in view of the depressed condition of the business of the country, that the various causes of Christian benevolence would hold their own; but the Spirit, which of late has wonderfully visited our foreign missionary stations, seems to have been more or less breathed upon our churches at home, and, besides exciting them, to have induced in a measure the systematizing of our charities.

The consequence is, that, instead of a decrease, the contributions of our churches are as large, if not actually larger, than ever before.

A growing love for our leading denominational agencies is shown, in the increased donations which have been given them. It is thus manifest, also, that the Church approves the newly adopted policy of caring for its own offspring.

The promises, through the Presbyteries, of such sympathy and aid as may be needful to extend the privileges of a preached Gospel and a sanctified literature, according to the openings of Providence, are gratefully acknowledged.

In some sections, the plan of presbyterial missions has been tried with encouraging success; and, like the mission-school system in our populous cities and towns, has resulted in the salvation of many souls yet to be gathered and organized into churches.

For reasons growing out of the state of the country, less than usual has been done during the past year in the matter of erecting houses of worship. Several have been repaired and improved, and a few new ones have been built. Church debts have been. in some instances, largely reduced; in others, entirely liquidated.

It is sad to learn how wide-spread and deepening is the evil of intemperance. With scarcely an exception, the Presbyteries report, that this terrible body and soul-killing vice is alarmingly rife. The interests of humanity, and the preservation of those whose spiritual welfare is committed to our care, demand that we arouse to new efforts for suppressing the use and the sale of intoxicating drinks.

Among the reported evidences of external prosperity, in certain quarters, is the increased attendance upon Sabbath-day worship, particularly on the morning service.

It is to be regretted, that this improvement is not more general and thorough. In society at large there is a lamentable, if not a growing, amount of Sabbath desecration; and multitudes of professors of religion practise upon the mischievous false sentiment. that a single attendance at the sanctuary discharges their obligation to "remember the Sabbath-day, and keep it holy."

The action of the last Assembly on the state of the country at that time, as subsequent events have proved, was manifestly wise and acceptable to the churches. It doubtless has had great influence in the patriotic development reported in the bounds of every Presbytery.

No one acquainted with the history and spirit of our denomination could have doubted, but that a characteristic loyalty to constitutional principles would be naturally and logically followed by loyalty to the National Government.

It has accordingly been the case, as the Narrative of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia well observes, that "the religion of our churches, during the past year, has been summoned by our Divine Lord into a new field of activities. The life of the nation has been in imminent peril. and with this, everything sacred in the Church was at stake. The question has been: Shall we have a free Church, an open Bible, a free press, and a land of universal liberty, or the reverse?

"We have felt that, with the loss of our national life, we not only surrender our republican institutions, but the rights and hopes of the world.

"Appreciating this, our pastors have endeavored to render more plain the immutable principles of divine government over us; and have not failed to proclaim that 'the powers that be are ordained of God,' and to pray for all our constituted authorities, and for the success of our national arms in the struggle to secure law and order and peace in our land."

The influence of such a ministry has shown itself in the fact, that there probably is not a congregation belonging to our Church but what is represented in the army, nor one but what, along with many from their membership, have also sent forth of their substance and of the labor of their hands, to improve the morals of the camp, and alleviate the sufferings of our sick and wounded soldiers.

The number of our brethren in the national service, as chaplains, cannot exactly be given. It is known to be creditably large. It is believed, also, that they have been thoroughly devoted to their work.

A Presbytery at the West reports the death, in a hospital, of one of its members who enlisted as a captain; and another, the death of a brother, who fell while gallantly engaged in urging the regiment, to which he ministered, to enact the heroic part which distinguished it, at the battle incident to the taking of Newbern.

The effect of this intimate relation between our churches and the army has been most happy, in inducing a deeper regard for the civil and religious institutions of the country, a sense of dependence upon God for their preservation, and an earnest and unceasing prayerfulness for the protection and salvation of the multitudes, who have given themselves to suppress that demon power which, in a rebellion against the Constitution and laws, would seek to nationalize itself, and extend its blighting despotism over a people ordained to be free.

We recognize, with devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, his favor upon us, not only in the national successes granted in answer to prayer, but also in that overruling of the developed patriotism of our people, by which it has been made a means to the end of a higher sanctification, and directly a means in the salvation of souls.

During the past year, it has pleased the Great Head of the Church, to transfer, from an earthly to a heavenly service, the following brethren in the ministry:

Henry A. Post,	of the Presbytery of	Troy.
B. Coleman Smith,	“ “	Bath.
David Murdock, D. D.,	“ “	Chemung.
Clement Long, D. D.,	“ “	Cayuga.
Orlando N. Benton,	“ “	Tioga.
Luther P. Blodgett,	“ “	Otsego.
William Fraser,	“ “	Delaware.
Samuel Leonard,	“ “	Buffalo.
Daniel M. Lord,	“ “	Long Island.
John W. Irwin,	“ “	New York, Third.
Samuel R. Davis,	“ “	Newark.
Barnabas King, D. D.,	“ “	Rockaway.
Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D.,	“ “	Philadelphia, Fourth.
Joshua N. Danforth, D. D.,	“ “	District of Columbia.
George M. Boardman,	“ “	Monroe.
David R. Dixon,	“ “	Washtenaw.
William S. Huggins,	“ “	Kalamazoo.
William Hanford,	“ “	Portage.
Solomon Stevens,	“ “	Trumbull.
Frederick H. Brown,	“ “	“
William S. Kennedy,	“ “	Cincinnati.
Charles White, D. D.,	“ “	Crawfordsville.
John Hough, D. D.,	“ “	Fort Wayne.
John Waters,	“ “	Knox.
George W. Gale, D. D.,	“ “	“

This large reduction of our ministerial force is impressively suggestive. “The night cometh, when no man can work.”

Shall not we, who continue to the present, renew our consecration to His service, whose outpoured blessing of the Holy Spirit is the desire of every Christian, the great need of the Church, and the only salvation of a lost world?

By order of the General Assembly.

GEORGE DUFFIELD, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	81	3	7	72	130	121	8,285	33	107	$224 09	$3,384 83	$4,072 00	$1,808 39	$2,285 66	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	23	...	2	23	37	32	2,252	8	30	25 81	504 10	1,259 70	42 78	467 60	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy	1820		25	3	1	18	24	36	2,399	6	20	64 96	1,165 73	1,051 60	931 63	650 76	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	14	...	3	12	29	28	1,756	10	28	37 57	487 87	619 24	442 70	106 59	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	1	6	13	7	751	1	7	35 75	215 55	372 00	......	190 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	13	...	...	13	27	18	1,127	8	22	60 00	1,011 58	769 46	391 28	870 71	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	83	5	8	67	127	117	7,171	39	107	131 56	3,265 51	3,264 10	1,604 80	1,577 01	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	...	5	13	14	617	4	17	31 00	151 50	334 65	225 00	108 56	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	1	...	21	46	25	2,056	20	46	94 00	368 21	660 08	190 36	530 49	Isaac Brayton, D. D.
3. Oswego	1823	...	10	...	...	16	31	15	1,644	1	9	......	649 59	929 26	197 61	342 32	John N. Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	46	4	8	25	37	63	2,854	14	35	6 56	2,096 21	1,340 11	991 83	595 64	Timothy Dwight Hunt.
III. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	104	7	...	93	214	239	9,149	84	135	333 92	2,862 60	2,599 16	1,815 99	1,330 58	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	36	2	...	18	36	59	2,576	14	42	105 11	746 08	992 11	330 55	417 77	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath	1817	...	9	...	...	14	30	40	1,152	10	18	39 63	186 00	132 50	......	5 00	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	23	1	...	24	44	74	1,852	15	50	66 93	669 61	374 19	304 67	336 28	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	10	...	...	8	74	29	1,290	31	6	27 00	590 18	560 38	94 98	125 76	David Torrey.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	14	5	3	553	3	2	30 00	71 68	42 25	75 73	4 00	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	16	4	...	15	25	34	1,726	11	17	65 25	599 05	497 73	1,010 06	441 77	William N. McHarg.
IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	76	22	21	71	171	148	8,102	63	107	299 94	2,888 89	2,844 63	2,680 21	1,735 48	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	20	1	4	22	53	36	2,484	21	42	104 20	605 65	595 67	201 35	321 37	Horace P. Bogue.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	31	20	8	22	48	36	2,386	14	29	119 00	1,098 41	1,022 56	2,125 24	566 89	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	12	...	5	17	48	35	1,860	22	14	47 50	481 82	411 13	138 51	395 81	Ova H. Seymour.
4. Tioga	1829	...	13	1	4	10	22	41	1,372	6	22	29 24	703 01	815 27	215 11	451 41	Samuel H. Hall, D. D.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	40	...	6	45	74	37	3,815	28	31	$59 45	$732 61	$1,269 67	$309 41	$405 05	William T. Doubleday.
1. Otsego	1820	...	14	...	...	16	16	14	1,424	1	8	28 45	270 28	845 89	18 16	306 14	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	15	...	4	16	39	9	1,508	19	6	11 50	267 52	265 37	141 63	84 05	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	11	...	2	13	19	14	883	8	17	19 50	194 81	158 41	149 62	14 86	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE	1821	6	125	9	7	101	375	278	12,285	129	215	467 59	4,723 96	4,184 97	3,274 03	4,796 62	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	35	2	6	29	45	75	3,398	14	63	200 00	1,831 73	1,712 17	1,951 43	1,416 14	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	16	1	...	12	46	26	1,533	25	45	......	529 94	361 86	378 92	276 65	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	25	6	1	16	64	90	2,821	20	43	116 25	698 44	701 22	210 75	2,388 44	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	17	...	...	16	44	27	1,356	18	20	49 01	903 68	503 95	340 76	395 76	Elizur N. Manley.
5. Niagara	1823	..	19	...	...	16	157	45	2,123	41	27	85 45	619 76	695 09	173 44	125 13	Joshua Cooke.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	13	...	...	12	19	15	1,051	11	17	16 88	140 41	207 68	218 73	194 50	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. SYN. OF N. Y. AND N. J.	1788	9	246	55	57	161	760	939	26,366	226	632	1210 36	32,973 86	24,929 00	9,144 55	8,698 64	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	11	...	1	13	38	30	1,559	16	18	82 30	843 24	461 67	110 00	528 75	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	17	2	2	20	41	41	1,835	21	37	100 00	781 70	357 17	64 25	814 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	8	...	1	6	34	14	625	11	12	34 80	52 75	195 87	35 00	95 37	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	62	24	22	23	176	279	6,250	38	204	316 00	11,166 65	6,357 29	3,186 18	1,856 30	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	39	21	17	13	108	173	3,113	23	78	134 80	9,702 11	8,984 08	2,204 13	2,220 75	J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	20	2	2	10	101	196	2,574	24	61	117 05	3,946 01	3,104 84	1,016 02	1,117 47	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	38	4	7	24	123	99	5,812	15	129	273 05	5,286 24	3,459 45	1,637 12	531 93	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	20	2	2	20	85	50	2,283	57	49	78 05	408 40	1,129 25	352 00	1,360 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	31	...	3	32	54	57	2,315	21	44	74 31	786 76	879 38	539 85	174 07	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	98	10	40	83	356	298	13,711	115	420	553 32	17,806 17	5,541 13	5,005 21	4,188 23	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	11	2	5	15	70	26	1,431	38	50	69 15	1,085 02	569 21	408 20	458 45	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	32	1	6	22	105	123	3,451	23	97	183 00	11,176 00	2,291 00	2,862 00	2,279 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth.	1845	...	30	6	23	27	131	107	6,240	43	195	212 17	3,148 17	1,595 81	1,402 66	1,159 69	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	14	...	6	10	22	11	1,214	9	26	89 00	1,454 00	315 48	302 35	248 59	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia	1831	...	11	1	...	9	28	31	1,375	2	52	......	942 98	769 63	30 00	42 50	William McLain, D. D.

IX. Synod of West Penn.	1843	3	26	3	6	35	77	49	2,948	21	87	131 45	1,131 45	956 44	536 82	945 20	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	12	1	3	13	24	22	1,327	13	19	67 55	379 81	218 31	57 95	548 81	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	8	1	2	16	20	7	919	4	42	24 95	82 48	58 80	185 00	38 25	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh.	1839	...	6	1	1	6	33	20	702	4	26	38 95	669 16	679 33	293 87	358 14	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	97	3	14	110	398	296	8,444	107	175	361 88	3,889 91	2,816 35	1,641 96	1,261 42	Vacant.
1. Detroit.	1826	...	19	...	2	17	43	39	1,361	6	33	51 65	1,728 04	705 99	559 27	203 30	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	12	...	...	15	85	39	1,174	9	17	39 00	297 05	326 54	51 50	263 61	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall	1838	..	13	1	1	15	58	50	1,367	18	24	51 20	233 97	262 61	233 56	109 58	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	12	2	8	9	40	34	1,202	10	24	54 50	341 34	257 34	236 51	11 00	Benjamin Franklin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	12	...	1	13	42	38	1,217	19	22	57 53	552 03	591 48	113 60	470 57	Milton Bradley.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	11	...	1	12	30	50	905	10	21	46 65	526 17	227 14	249 70	58 23	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	10	...	1	15	60	33	787	15	22	39 50	177 58	330 52	177 70	97 63	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	5	...	...	8	35	11	342	17	9	17 10	33 73	39 73	20 12	47 50	David M. Cooper.
9. Lake Superior	1857	...	3	...	...	6	5	2	89	3	3	4 75	......	75 00	......	......	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	7	97	7	24	85	223	171	6,529	78	150	205 51	2,084 63	2,870 21	1,205 50	2,412 18	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	7	...	...	6	20	7	535	12	5	2 44	26 19	87 61	10 50	......	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage	1818	...	14	2	10	7	15	17	577	3	7	.....	49 00	42 35	60 00	66 25	Samuel Lee.
3. Huron	1823	...	16	1	2	16	66	33	1,274	32	44	61 00	431 28	422 90	589 64	223 22	Alfred Newton, D. D.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	10	...	5	13	62	31	1,111	20	31	56 40	389 05	491 41	182 05	345 48	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	27	4	2	15	44	58	1,527	6	44	41 67	869 41	1,367 45	248 18	736 86	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	14	...	2	14	3	4	747	3	7	8 50	193 00	237 50	57 00	185 75	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	3	14	13	21	758	2	12	35 50	126 70	220 99	58 13	854 62	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	56	7	13	68	172	78	4,734	60	135	82 09	1,160 81	1,244 46	674 66	663 60	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	3	7	16	20	16	841	8	26	9 75	33 00	13 50	83 50	131 80	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	21	2	...	24	60	24	1,752	24	51	12 59	477 11	531 16	349 38	198 18	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	..	16	2	6	17	78	30	1,364	21	25	19 75	341 03	428 13	140 78	59 49	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	7	...	...	11	14	8	777	7	33	40 00	309 67	271 67	101 00	274 13	Tapping S. Reeve.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati.	1829	3	48	8	10	42	130	127	3,046	42	148	174 70	2,754 56	960 39	1,281 02	975 14	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	27	7	8	19	67	73	1,615	15	113	102 00	2,190 13	568 31	978 24	638 14	George M. Maxwell.
2. Dayton	1838	...	11	...	...	12	12	22	934	6	22	45 00	413 00	172 00	205 00	320 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	10	1	2	11	51	32	497	21	13	27 70	151 43	220 08	97 78	17 00	John Hussey.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XIV. Synod of Indiana...	1826	4	40	4	7	61	168	104	3,530	61	136	$174 75	$6,189 45	$7,273 16	$13,175 35	$5,364 75	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem......................	1823	...	11	...	...	15	29	26	977	13	34	47 95	534 50	333 15	537 26	104 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	9	4	4	14	12	32	937	1	47	47 70	208 95	299 59	1,518 85	150 55	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis..............	1830	...	11	...	3	17	46	24	950	11	23	49 00	5,296 98	6,459 67	11,037 25	5,080 00	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle.............	1850	...	9	...	...	15	81	22	666	36	32	30 10	149 02	180 75	81 99	30 20	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash......	1851	4	36	1	...	56	125	100	2,771	43	76	107 65	688 40	436 99	448 40	192 85	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville.........	1825	...	10	1	...	12	26	21	546	9	31	28 40	404 67	85 65	12 15	25 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph...............	1833	...	11	...	...	15	27	37	841	6	13	26 70	154 28	205 34	219 25	39 85	Bethuel Farrand.
3. Logansport	1835	...	9	...	...	17	41	25	924	7	26	31 20	110 95	143 00	194 00	128 00	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne............	1845	...	6	...	...	12	31	17	460	21	6	21 35	18 50	3 00	23 00	......	John Fairchild.
XVI. Synod of Illinois....	1831	4	68	2	6	87	129	161	4,333	40	118	187 90	1,683 57	669 26	1,144 01	580 40	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois....................	1828	...	18	1	...	20	49	27	1,249	16	12	58 40	515 00	410 40	288 25	89 50	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	15	...	5	21	26	32	1,120	7	28	56 00	126 32	83 48	101 00	185 10	George I. King.
3. Wabash..................	1833	...	7	1	...	11	16	16	380	5	19	17 75	78 08	52 18	28 27	24 30	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton......................	1836	...	28	...	1	35	38	86	1,584	12	59	55 75	964 17	123 20	726 49	281 50	Cornelius H. Taylor.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	6	92	...	10	77	176	309	4,829	58	172	214 45	2,675 00	2,671 34	1,079 13	1,214 64	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa..	1834	...	15	...	...	12	22	11	427	6	13	19 85	53 50	20 50	......	79 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox......................	1836	...	12	...	2	8	16	25	546	5	6	27 05	153 05	172 00	97 66	128 25	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	10	...	...	13	3	5	541	1	8	26 90	110 76	82 41	20 20	10 00	William J. Johnston.
4. Chicago..................	1847	...	31	...	5	20	74	155	1,939	30	101	77 45	2,023 85	2,147 23	730 04	833 00	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere................	1847	...	13	...	2	9	21	52	784	3	17	37 30	239 71	225 70	211 23	127 39	Henry B. Holmes.
6. Bloomington...........	1847	...	11	...	1	15	40	61	592	13	27	25 90	94 13	23 50	20 00	37 00	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. Syn. of Wisconsin.	1857	3	27	1	1	29	32	40	1,236	5	49	71 35	490 31	156 90	231 80	104 05	Sidney H. Barteau.
1. Milwaukee..............	1851	...	13	...	1	9	7	14	545	4	29	29 40	401 41	73 83	75 85	64 35	George W. Elliott.

2. Fox River	1851	...	7	...	...	6	21	3	248	1	8	17 75	34 22	18 77	46 50	......	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1856	...	7	1	...	14	4	23	443	...	12	24 20	54 68	64 30	109 45	39 70	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA........	1853	6	52	1	3	68	71	87	2,139	19	74	70 55	105 40	186 65	161 09	72 75	Vacant.
1. Des Moines.	1845	...	6	...	...	10	6	9	231	...	22	11 55	19 00	17 00	......	21 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City..............	1852	...	19	1	...	26	18	45	860	6	21	40 50	37 75	49 00	148 50	45 00	Isaac W. Atherton.
3. Keokuk..................	1852	...	8	...	3	8	10	15	354	2	8	8 00	9 90	18 05	12 59	6 75	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque..................	1855	...	7	...	...	4	26	14	210	9	12	10 50	38 75	102 60	......	......	James H. Trowbridge.
5. Iowa Valley*..........	1857	...	5	...	...	11	...	...	189	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Williston Jones.
6. Chariton.................	1860	...	7	...	...	9	11	4	295	2	11	......	......	......	......	......	Asa Martin.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA..	1858	3	24	1	1	21	24	39	605	11	47	27 85	116 23	286 16	24 48	50 40	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota....................	1846	...	10	1	...	8	10	2	168	7	25	8 65	24 00	215 16	11 15	31 40	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	8	...	...	9	11	15	257	1	17	11 95	50 00	48 00	......	......	John Mattocks.
3. Winona....................	1857	...	6	...	1	4	3	22	180	3	5	7 25	42 23	23 00	13 33	19 00	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI...	1832	3	18	2	3	18	21	59	857	7	27	47 70	218 33	135 26	216 73	107 81	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis.................	1831	...	7	...	2	3	15	36	475	6	16	29 65	218 33	135 26	216 73	103 81	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri.....	1845	...	5	...	...	4	...	1	221	...	11	12 00	......	......	......	......	James A. Darrah.
3. Kansas....................	1859	...	6	2	1	11	6	22	161	1	...	6 05	......	......	......	4 00	Judson Aspinwall.
XXII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA	1857	3	21	...	...	16	42	55	569	7	57	......	85 00	100 00	......	200 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	6	...	...	3	15	25	143	1	35	......	......	......	......	......	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada*.........	1857	...	5	...	...	5	12	11	179	...	1	......	......	......	......	......	Walter Frier.
3. San José..................	1857	...	10	...	...	8	15	19	247	6	21	......	85 00	100 00	......	200 00	Wm. Wallace Brier.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	81	3	7	72	130	121	8,285	33	107	$224.09	$3,384.83	$4,072.00	$1,808.39	$2,285.66
2. Utica	1829	4	83	5	8	67	127	117	7,171	39	107	131.56	3,265.51	3,264.10	1,604.80	1,577.01
3. Geneva	1812	6	104	7	...	93	214	239	9,149	84	135	333.92	2,862.60	2,599.16	1,815.99	1,330.58
4. Onondaga	1855	4	76	22	21	71	171	148	8,102	63	107	299.94	2,888.89	2,844.63	2,680.21	1,735.48
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	40	...	6	45	74	37	3,815	28	31	59.45	732.61	1,269.67	309.41	405.05
6. Genesee	1821	6	125	9	7	101	375	278	12,285	129	215	467.59	4,723.96	4,184.97	3,274.03	4,796.62
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	246	55	57	161	760	939	26,366	226	632	1210.36	32,973 86	24,929.00	9,144.55	8,698.64
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	98	10	40	83	356	298	13,711	115	420	553.32	17,806.17	5,541.13	5,005.21	4,188.23
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	26	3	6	35	77	49	2,948	21	87	131.45	1,131.45	956.44	536.82	945.20
10. Michigan	1834	9	97	3	14	110	398	296	8,444	107	175	361.88	3,889.91	2,816.35	1,641.96	1,261.42
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	97	7	24	85	223	171	6,529	78	150	205.51	2,084.63	2,870.21	1,205.50	2,412.18
12. Ohio	1814	4	56	7	13	68	172	78	4,734	60	135	82.09	1,160.81	1,244.46	674.66	663.60
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	48	8	10	42	130	127	3,046	42	148	174.70	2,754.56	960.39	1,281.02	975.14
14. Indiana	1826	4	40	4	7	61	168	104	3,530	61	136	174.75	6,189.45	7,273.16	13,175.35	5,364.75
15. Wabash	1851	4	36	1	...	56	125	100	2,771	43	76	107.65	688.40	436.99	448.40	192.85
16. Illinois	1831	4	68	2	6	87	129	161	4,333	40	118	187.90	1,683.57	669.26	1,144.01	580.40
17. Peoria	1843	6	92	...	10	77	176	309	4,829	58	172	214.45	2,675.00	2,671.34	1,079.13	1,214.64
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	27	1	1	29	32	40	1,236	5	49	71.35	490.31	156.90	231.80	104.05
19. Iowa	1853	6	52	1	3	68	71	87	2,139	19	74	70.55	105.40	186.65	161.09	72.75
20. Minnesota	1858	3	24	1	1	21	24	39	605	11	47	27.85	116.23	286.16	24.48	50.40
21. Missouri	1832	3	18	2	3	18	21	59	857	7	27	47.70	218.33	135.26	216.73	107.81
22. Alta California	1857	3	21	...	...	16	42	55	569	7	57	......	85.00	100.00	......	200.00
		104	1555	151	244	1466	3995	3852	135,454	1276	3205	$5138.06	$91,911.48	$69,468.23	$47,463.54	$39,162.46

MINUTES, 1863.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 21*st*, 1863.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church, Washington Square, of the city of Philadelphia, Pa., on Thursday, the 21st of May, 1863, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 2 Timothy 3 : 1 : "In the last days perilous times shall come."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [220]

Thursday, May 21*st*, 4 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented by the Permanent Clerk, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled, as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Zebulon M. P. Luther.	
2. *Troy*,	Selden Haines,	Ezekiel Baker, M. D.
	Abner de Witt,	
3. *Albany*,	Charles Doolittle,	Hon. Otis Allen.
4. *Columbia*,	William S. Leavitt,	Josiah W. Fairfield.
5. *Catskill*,	George A. Howard,	George Robertson.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	John Waugh.	
2. *Watertown*,	William H. Lockwood,	Erastus S. Kelsey (3).
3. *Oswego*,	John N. Hubbard,	Silas W. Brewster.
4. *Utica*,	Philemon H. Fowler, D. D.,	William D. Walcott,
	Wilson B. Parmelee,	Hon. Spencer Kellogg.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva*,	Samuel H. Gridley, D. D.,	David D. Dayton, M. D.
	E. Woodward Brown,	
2. *Steuben*,	David D. Gregory,	Nathaniel C. Taylor.
3. *Chemung*,	Charles C. Carr,	Daniel B. Westlake.
	Franklin S. Howe,	
4. *Ithaca*,	Leonard McGlashen,	James Bodle.
5. *Wellsborough*,	Francis Rand,	Samuel E. Ensworth.
6. *Lyons*,	Abram Blakely,	Sylvanus J. Sayles.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Edwin R. Davis,	Alvin Foord, M. D.
2. *Cayuga*,	Charles Anderson,	Daniel Hewson,
	Amos Crocker,	Daniel Bennett.
3. *Cortland*,	Archibald McDougall (2),	Joseph R. Dixon.
4. *Tioga*,	T. Dwight Walker,	Frederick E. Platt.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Andrew Parsons.	
2. *Chenango*,	Willard M. Hoyt,	Dorastus Green.
3. *Delaware*,	George T. Everest,	William S. Atchinson.

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VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Walter Clarke, D. D.,	Silas Kingsley,
	Sanford W. Roe,	Sextus H. Hungerford.
2. *Ontario*,	Alphonso L. Benton (3),	Seth Johnson.
3. *Rochester*,	Ralph S. Crampton,	Lewis D. Ferry,
	Nathaniel Hurd,	Edwin T. Huntington.
4. *Genesee*,	Elisha Whittlesey,	James H. Loomis.
5. *Niagara*,	Henry E. Niles,	Edwin P. Healy, M. D.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	John E. Baker,	Abijah B. Palmer.

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Henry J. Acker (4),	Isaac Swift.
2. *North River*,	Michael F. Liebenau,	Lewis F. Street (2).
3. *Long Island*,	Charles H. Holloway,	John N. Sayre.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	T. H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D.,	William A. Booth,
	Frederick W. Graves,	David Gillmur,
	Edward W. French,	William C. Harp.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	S. H. Cox, D. D., LL.D.,	George W. Lane,
	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	Fred. H. Bartholomew.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	Walter S. Griffith.
7. *Newark*,	John Crowell,	Isaac R. Noyes,
	Ellis J. Newlin (4),	William W. Parkhurst (2).
8. *Rockaway*,	Sylvester Cooke,	William B. Lefevre, M. D.
9. *Montrose*,	Edward Allen,	William Root,
	Samuel Schaffer,	Leonard Batchelor.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	George Foot,	John B. Porter.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	Charles Brown,	Benedict D. Stewart,
	Henry Darling, D. D.,	William E. Tenbrook.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Albert Barnes,	Ambrose White,
	Robert Adair,	David Thomas.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Jeremiah Miller,	James W. Kerr, M. D. (2).
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	John C. Smith, D. D.,	William J. Redstrake.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Ambrose Dunn,	George Kellogg.
2. *Meadville*,	John McMaster,	James Clark.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Herrick Johnson.	

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	Norman Tucker,	George W. Hoffman.
2. *Monroe*,	Samuel Fleming,	Fleming McMath.
3. *Marshall*,	Chester S. Armstrong,	Alvin Upson.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Lucius D. Chapin,	William R. Martin.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Milton Bradley,	Eli R. Miller.
6. *Coldwater*,	Charles M. Temple,	Lorenzo Russell.
7. *Saginaw*,	Edwin J. Stewart (3),	Albert Miller.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.*,	David M. Cooper,	Calvin H. Chase.
9. *Lake Superior*,	Cicero B. Stevens (3).	[222]

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	J. Mills Gillett,	Orramel H. Fitch.
2. *Portage*,	George E. Pierce, D. D.,	Isaac L'Hommedieu.
3. *Huron*,	J. Evarts Weed,	Abraham R. Marsh.
4. *Trumbull*,	Henry B. Eldred,	William Rice.
5. *Cleveland*,	Joseph B. Bittinger,	Hon. John A. Foot,
	Theron H. Hawks,	Samuel H. Mather.
6. *Elyria*,	James E. Vance,	Esek C. Bradford.
7. *Maumee*,	George A. Adams,	Finlay Strong.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Charles D. Curtiss.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Alexander Duncan,	Samuel H. Lee, M. D.
3. *Franklin*,	Anson Smyth,	Hon. Chauncy N. Olds.
4. *Scioto*,	John M. Boal,	William F. Wilson, M. D.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Joseph Chester,	Edgar P. Starr,
	George E. Day, D. D.,	Lemuel H. Sargent.
2. *Dayton*,	S. Granby Spees, D. D.,	George L. Massey.
3. *Hamilton*,	John Stuart,	George W. Haire.
4. *Ripley*,	Daniel M. Moore,	Thomas F. Sniffin.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Charles Hutchinson,	Joseph Loughmiller.
2. *Madison*,	Alexander Parker,	Thomas L. Paine.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Lemuel P. Webber,	Philander H. Roots.
4. *Green Castle*,	John Hawkes,	Isaac G. Coffin.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Samuel B. King,	Abram S. Jones.
2. *St. Joseph*,	John Sailor.	
3. *Logansport*,	Nathan L. Lord,	John W. Shields.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	William J. Essick,	Hon. John L. Knight.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Rufus Nutting, Jr.,	David A. Smith.
2. *Schuyler*,	George F. Davis.	
3. *Wabash*,	Enoch Kingsbury,	William M. Allison.
4. *Alton*,	Joseph Gordon,	Matthias Fehren.
	Augustus T. Norton,	

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Nahum Gould.	
2. *Knox*,	Benjamin B. Parsons,	Lucius L. Day.
3. *Galena*,	Daniel Clark,	Calvin P. Pease.
4. *Chicago*,	Edward A. Pierce (2), Zephaniah M. Humphrey (6),	Wm. C. Barker, M. D. (2).
5. *Belvidere*,	Isaac E. Carey,	Henry W. Avery, Jr.
6. *Bloomington*,	Alfred Eddy,	Benjamin E. Miles (2).

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XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Joseph H. Towne, D. D. (2),	Anthony Green (5).
2. *Fox River*,	Charles F. Halsey (2),	Timothy M. Baker.
3. *Columbus*,	Benjamin G. Riley,	Carlos W. Baldwin.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Thompson Bird,	William D. Moore.
2. *Keokuk*,	William H. Williams.	
3. *Iowa City*,	George D. A. Hebard,	Samuel H. Rogers.
4. *Dubuque*,	George R. Carroll,	John Maclay.
5. *Cedar Valley*,	Calvin Waterbury.	
6. *Chariton*.		

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	James Thomson.	
2. *Minnesota*,	Frederick A. Noble.	
3. *Winona*,	Charles S. Le Duc.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	John Maclean,	Russell Scarritt.
2. *Lexington*,	Franklin E. Sheldon (2).	
3. *Northern Missouri*,	James A. Darrah,	Alexander J. Dallas.
4. *Kansas*,	James Brownlee.	

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco*.
2. *Sierra Nevada*.
3. *San José*.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
2. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*,	Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D.
3. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*	
4. *Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	
5. *General Association of Massachusetts.*	
6. *General Association of Connecticut.*	
7. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
8. *General Conference of Maine.*	[224]
9. *General Conference of Vermont*,	Rev. Azariah Hyde.

10. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*
11. *Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.*
12. *Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States.*

The Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Herrick Johnson, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, and the Rev. Henry E. Niles, of the Presbytery of Niagara, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That, hereafter, the Standing Committees on Bills and Overtures, Polity of the Church, Church Erection, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Education, and Publication, shall consist of six ministers and five elders each; and the Committees on Synodical Records shall consist of three ministers and two elders each; and that the other Standing Committees shall remain as heretofore.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk; and

That it be made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, and the reception of the Synodical Records and papers from the respective Presbyteries, to receive the reports of the various Permanent Committees of the Assembly, and of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and of the Presbyterian House.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 1 o'clock P. M.; and from 3½ o'clock P. M. to 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed among the members.

The following communication was received from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which met at Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1862:

In the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, in session at Columbus, Ohio, the matter of a fraternal correspondence, by Commissioners, with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (New School) in session at Cincinnati, Ohio, being duly considered, is decided as follows:

This Assembly having considered certain Overtures sent to it by a few of the Presbyteries under its care, proposing that steps should be taken by it towards an organic union between this Church and [225] the Church under the care of the Presbyterian General Assembly, New School; and having determined against the course proposed in said Overtures, has also been informed that the other General Assembly has, about the same time, come to a similar conclusion on similar Overtures laid before it by a certain number of its own Presbyteries. Of its own motion, this General Assembly, considering the time to have come, for it to take the initiative in securing a better understanding of the relations, which it judges are proper to be maintained between the two General Assemblies, hereby proposes, that there shall be a stated annual and friendly interchange of Commissioners between the two

General Assemblies, each body sending to the other one minister and one ruling elder, as Commissioners, year by year, the said Commissioners to enjoy such privileges, in each body to which they are sent, as are common to all those now received by this body from other Christian denominations.

The Moderator of this Assembly will communicate this deliverance to the Moderator of the other Assembly, to be laid before it, with our Christian salutations.

A true copy.

W. E. Schenck,
Permanent Clerk.

Philadelphia, June 2d, 1862.

This communication, after discussion, was referred to a Committee of five.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	Minister,	from the	Presb. of	Brooklyn.
Augustus T. Norton,	"	"	"	Alton.
James E. Vance,	"	"	"	Elyria.
George A. Howard,	"	"	"	Catskill.
John W. Shields,	Elder,	"	"	Logansport.
Alvin Foord, M. D.,	"	"	"	Onondaga.
Frederick E. Platt,	"	"	"	Tioga.
Sextus H. Hungerford,	"	"	"	Buffalo.
Frederick H. Bartholomew,	"	"	"	New York, 4th.
Calvin P. Pease,	"	"	"	Galena. [226]
Philander H. Roots,	"	"	"	Indianapolis.
George L. Massey,	"	"	"	Dayton.
Daniel Bennett,	"	"	"	Cayuga.
George Robertson,	"	"	"	Catskill.
Samuel H. Rogers,	"	"	"	Iowa City.
James Bodle,	"	"	"	Ithaca.
William R. Martin,	"	"	"	Washtenaw.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare a suitable minute on the State of the Country.

The city of Dayton, Ohio, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Joseph Chester, and Mr. Edgar P. Starr, were appointed to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., George E. Pierce, D. D., Ralph S. Crampton. *Elders*—Josiah W. Fairfield, Hon. Spencer Kellogg, Samuel H. Mather.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—John C. Smith, D. D., S. Granby Spees, D. D., Selden Haines, Alfred Eddy, J. Mills Gillett, Frederick A. Noble. *Elders*—Ambrose White, William A. Booth, Hon. John A. Foot, William D. Walcott, Samuel H. Lee, M. D.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D.,

William S. Leavitt, Joseph B. Bittinger, Charles S. Le Duc, Michael F. Liebenau, Charles Brown. *Elders*—Hon. Otis Allen, Hon. John L. Knight, David Gillmur, Hon. Chauncy N. Olds, George Kellogg.

4. *Church Erection.* *Ministers*—George A. Howard, Charles C. Carr, Edward W. French, George Foot, Jeremiah Miller, Cicero B. Stevens. *Elders*—Hon. John A. Foot, Hon. John L. Knight, Edwin T. Huntington, Ambrose White, Lucius L. Day.

5. *Home Missions.* *Ministers*—Walter Clarke, D. D., Augustus T. Norton, Thompson Bird, Alexander Duncan, Daniel Clark, Daniel M. Moore. *Elders*—Russell Scarritt, Silas Kingsley, William C. Harp, William D. Moore, Alexander J. Dallas. [227]

6. *Foreign Missions.* *Ministers*—Albert Barnes, Theron H. Hawks, Chester S. Armstrong, James Thomson, Henry B. Eldred, George Foot. *Elders*—Walter S. Griffith, Daniel Hewson, Nathaniel C. Taylor, Sylvanus J. Sayles, John N. Sayre.

7. *Education.* *Ministers*—George E. Day, D. D., Lucius D. Chapin, Willard M. Hoyt, Elisha Whittlesey, Anson Smyth, James A. Darrah. *Elders*—Lemuel H. Sargent, Lucius L. Day, Isaac R. Noyes, James H. Loomis, Daniel B. Westlake.

8. *Publication.* *Ministers*—Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., Edward W. French, Joseph Chester, Wilson B. Parmelee, Charles H. Holloway, James Brownlee. *Elders*—William J. Redstrake, Edwin T. Huntington, David A. Smith, David Thomas, Finlay Strong.

9. *Narrative.* *Ministers*—John Crowell, Franklin S. Howe, George D. A. Hebard, Frederick W. Graves. *Elders*—Lorenzo Russell, William F. Wilson, M. D., Thomas L. Paine.

10. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—David D. Gregory, Charles C. Carr, William J. Essick, John M. Boal. *Elders*—David D. Dayton, M. D., Alvin Foord, M. D., Edwin P. Healy, M. D.

11. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—Robert Adair, Jeremiah Miller, Isaac E. Carey, Joseph Gordon. *Elders*—William E. Tenbrook, Henry W. Avery, William D. Moore.

12. *Mileage.* *Elders*—George W. Lane, Benedict D. Stewart, Edgar B. Starr.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—Henry B. Eldred, Ambrose Dunn, George R. Carroll. *Elders*—Silas W. Brewster, John N. Sayre.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—Norman Tucker, Benjamin B. Parsons, Alphonso L. Benton. *Elders*—George Kellogg, Henry W. Avery, Jr.

3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Nahum Gould, Charles D. Curtis, Francis Rand. *Elders*—James H. Loomis, James Clark. [228]

4. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—Zebulon M. P. Luther, Frederick A. Noble, Nathaniel Hurd. *Elders*—Silas Kingsley, William M. Allison.

5. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—William H. Williams, Charles M. Temple, John M. McMaster. *Elders*—Thomas F. Griffin, Timothy M. Baker.

6. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—John Waugh, James A. Darrah, Samuel B. King. *Elders*—Lemuel H. Sargent, Albert Miller.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—William S. Leavitt, Nathan L. Lord, Lemuel P. Webber. *Elders*—Silas W. Brewster, Abijah P. Palmer.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Sylvester Cooke, Abram Blakely, John Sailor. *Elders*—Thomas L. Paine, George W. Haire.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Edward Allen, George T. Everest, Elisha Whittlesey. *Elders*—Alexander J. Dallas, Lewis D. Ferry.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Sanford W. Roe, J. Evarts Weed, Rufus Nutting, Jr. *Elders*—John W. Shields, David Thomas.

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Benjamin G. Riley, John Maclean, James Thomson. *Elders*—Carlos W. Baldwin, Matthias Fehren.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Calvin Waterbury, Alexander Parker, Samuel Schaffer. *Elders*—David A. Smith, Abram S. Jones.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—David M. Cooper, George A. Adams, Michael F. Liebenau. *Elders*—Leonard Batchelor, Edwin T. Huntington.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Willard M. Hoyt, William H. Lockwood, John Stuart. *Elders*—Orramel H. Fitch, Alvin Upson.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—James E. Vance, Samuel Fleming, Andrew Parsons. *Elders*—Joseph R. Dixon, Isaac Swift.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Charles Doolittle, Milton Bradley, William J. Essick. *Elders*—Ezekiel Baker, M. D., Samuel E. Ensworth.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—John N. Hubbard, Charles Anderson, John E. Baker. *Elders*—Josiah W. Fairfield, Joseph Loughmiller.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Amos Crocker, E. Woodward Brown, Charles Hutchinson. *Elders*—Nathaniel C. Taylor, John Maclay.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*— Franklin S. Howe, T. Dwight Walker, David M. Moore. *Elders*—David D. Dayton, M. D., Edwin P. Healy, M. D.

20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—Leonard McGlashen, Edwin R. Davis, Charles H. Holloway. *Elders*—William B. Lefevre, M. D., Lorenzo Russell. [229]

21. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—Lucius D. Chapin, John Hawkes, Joseph Gordon. *Elders*—George W. Hoffman, Abraham R. Marsh.

22. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—James Brownlee, George F. Davis, Edgar W. French. *Elders*—Fleming McMath, Calvin H. Chase.

The Rev. Albert Barnes, the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., the Hon. Otis Allen, and Mr. Walter S. Griffith, were appointed the *Committee* to prepare a minute *on the State of the Country.*

The Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Mr. William A. Booth, and the Hon. Chauncy N. Olds, were appointed the *Committee on the Communication* received *from the General Assembly* of the Presbyterian Church, which met at Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1862.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries, which were duly referred to the Standing Committees.

An invitation from the directors of "The Union League of Philadelphia," to visit their rooms, in this city, was received and accepted. The Assembly voted to proceed in a body to their rooms at 5 o'clock P. M.

An invitation from "The Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon and Hospital Association," to visit their buildings, was received and accepted for to-morrow, at 5 o'clock P. M.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The annual report of the Treasurer was read, and referred to Messrs. Ambrose White and Frederick H. Bartholomew, as an *Auditing Committee.*

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented their annual report. It was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Franklin E. Sheldon, Minister, from the Presbytery of Lexington.
Edward A. Pierce, " " " Chicago. [230]
William C. Barker, M. D., Elder, " " "
James W. Karr, M. D., " " " Harrisburgh.
William W. Parkhurst, " " " Newark.
Lewis F. Street, " " " North River.

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met at Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1862, presented a report, which was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, that met at Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1862, addressed to this General Assembly, and proposing "a stated, annual, and friendly interchange of Commissioners between the two General Assemblies," recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, with heartfelt pleasure and Christian salutations, accept the proposition thus made, hoping and praying, that it may result "in securing a better understanding of the relations," which, in the judgment of this Assembly, "are proper to be maintained between the two Assemblies."

2. That, in accordance with the suggestion of the Moderator of the Assembly that met at Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1862, that this interchange of Commissioners should commence at the earliest practicable period, the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and the Hon. William H. Brown, principals, and the Rev. Arthur Swazey and Mr. Oliver H. Lee, alternates, all of the Presbytery of Chicago, be appointed Commissioners to represent this General Assembly in the General Assembly now in session at Peoria, Ill.

3. That it be suggested that future General Assemblies of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, hereafter, designate each other respectively by the places in which their sessions are appointed to be held.

4. That a certified copy of this action be at once transmitted to the Moderator of the General Assembly now in session at Peoria, Ill., and that the Commissioners appointed be requested to repair to that body, and express to them the fraternal and Christian regards of this General Assembly.

It was ordered that the substance of this report be communicated by telegraph to the General Assembly now in session at Peoria, Ill. Also that the Delegates from this Assembly be, in the same way, informed of their appointment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [231]

Saturday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Joseph H. Towne, D. D., Minister, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee.
Archibald McDougall, " " " Cortland.
Charles F. Halsey, " " " Fox River.
Cicero B. Stevens, " " " Lake Superior.
Benjamin E. Miles, Elder, " " Bloomington.
Seth Johnson, " " " Ontario.
Erastus S. Kelsey, " " " Watertown.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

The annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons:

J. Mills Gillett, Minister, from the Presbytery of Grand River.
William A. Booth, Elder, " " New York, 3d.
Leonard Batchelor, " " " Montrose.

The Committee to audit the annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported, that they had examined it, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommend that it be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with. [232]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Henry J. Acker, Minister, from the Presbytery of Hudson.
Edwin J. Stewart, " " " Saginaw.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. George C. Noyes, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; from the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from the Rev. Peter Snyder, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from the Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. Stephen Bush, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; and from the Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Rev. Azariah Hyde, the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

A communication was received and read from Rev. George M. Adams, the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts.

At the request of the Mileage Committee, the time for the presentation of the bills of the Commissioners, and the payment of funds, was extended to the close of the fifth day of the present session.

The price of the printed Minutes was changed, in consequence of the increased rate of printer's work, from forty cents, as determined by the Assembly of 1854, to fifty cents.

The rate of contribution to the Contingent Fund, from those Presbyteries that fail to comply with the Assembly's Plan of Mileage, was changed from sixty cents per minister, as determined by the Assembly of 1858, to seventy-five cents per minister.

Two members of the Committee of Bills and Overtures having obtained leave of absence, Rev. Joseph H. Towne, D. D., and Mr. George Robertson, were appointed in their place.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

In the judgment of the Standing Committee, the report submitted to the Assembly is a document of great value, claiming not only the attention of this General Assembly, but deserving a wide dissemination among the churches of our denomination. The Permanent Committee deserve in a high degree the commendation of the Assembly, and the thanks of the churches for the diligence and [233] attention manifested in the general performance of the duties assigned them in the matter of Foreign Missions, and in preparing the report for the Assembly. The extensive circulation of this document would be of value, not merely as furnishing information to the churches in regard to the work actually accomplished in our denomination in the cause of Missions, but as containing valuable suggestions to the churches, in regard to what it is desirable should be done, and the best methods of accomplishing the part to which we are called in spreading the Gospel through the world. And the Committee, recommending the approval of the report to the Assembly, express the earnest hope that measures will be taken to place it, as far as possible, before all the members of the churches.

We deem it proper to add, that the Permanent Committee perform their work without any expense to the Assembly or the Board.

With this general commendation of the report, there are a few points to which the Standing Committee beg leave more particularly to direct the attention of the Assembly :—

The claims of the unevangelized on the churches represented in this Assembly; the inadequate response which we have hitherto made to those claims; the number and position of the members of our Presbyteries who, under the auspices of the American Board, have gone forth as heralds of a Saviour's love to the nations enshrouded in darkness; the strong attachment felt by our missionary brethren to the Church to which they belong, and to their beloved country, with most cheering intelligence of the blessings which the Lord has vouchsafed to their labors, and urgent appeals for assistance to gather the ripening harvest, under the weight of which they are nearly overwhelmed; the progress of the missions connected with the Board; the necessity of a large increase of funds and of missionaries, in order to sustain and carry forward the missions already established; the efforts which the Committee have made to interest every church and every member of every church connected with us, so as to secure liberal and systematic contributions to this cause, and the relations of all our interests, as Christians and a Christian Church, to the right performance of our duties towards the dying heathen.

The following points in the report should, in the opinion of your Committee, receive the special attention of the Assembly and the churches:

1. That we can now go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature; the barriers being all removed. 2. That we are bound to do it, by the express command of Him who says: " Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." 3. That we have entered on the work; have been blessed in it; have now sixty of our ministers in the field, whom we know, whose testimony we believe, and who tell us, in accents of deepest distress, how the heathen rush to perdition in their ignorance and guilt, and how they faint and fall, because left unaided by us to whom they look for re-enforcements and supplies. 4. That God has given to [234] our people the ability, if they have the mind, to yield the needed aid, so far as men and money are required; that every one of us can give at least the avails of one day's labor each month; that this will produce more than four times the amount now contributed; and that we shall be held accountable for the willing heart to co-operate with him, to that extent at least, in saving a lost world. 5. That we have no good reason to presume, that the Great Head of the Church will bless our labors at home, our ministry and our missionary enterprises here, our families, our fields, our flocks, and our business pursuits, and our dearly beloved country, and preserve to us our blessed heritage, while we are unmindful of the great work which he has so solemnly committed to us, and do little or nothing to bring the hundreds of millions, for whom he died, to the knowledge of his love. 6. That the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit, on the hearts of the hundreds of Indians in chains at Mankato, during the past winter, as related in the exceedingly interesting statement of Dr. Williamson, one of our missionaries to the Dakotas, should fill our hearts with gratitude, and stimulate us to prayer and effort for the oppressed and wretched sons of the prairie and the forest, to whom we owe so much, and for whom we have done so little.

Your Committee would suggest, that our admirable system of church polity affords the greatest facilities for reaching all our people, and bringing them into line at the call of duty; that, therefore, a greater measure of responsibility attaches to the General Assembly and to the Presbyteries, than has been recognized hitherto; that it becomes our most solemn duty to look this responsibility in the face; that a just regard to the glory of our God and King, to his parting command, to the salvation of the lost, to the happiness of our people, and to the peace and prosperity of our Zion in all her enterprises and interests, demands that we shall adopt some measures, through which these weighty and sacred obligations shall be laid upon the conscience of every disciple of Christ within our Church, and shall be pressed there, till the heart is moved, and the tithes are brought into the storehouse.

We recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That, in the removal of every obstacle to the preaching of the Gospel, there is abundant cause for gratitude and encouragement, and the strongest appeal to every friend of the Redeemer to enlist, to the extent of his ability, in the work of evangelizing a lost world.

Resolved, That the fact, so painfully evident, that, as a Christian people, we are not properly awake to the claims of the heathen, and are doing little for their salvation compared with the ability which God has given us, is one that should humble us, instruct us, and induce us to devote ourselves henceforth while we live, our sons and our daughters, our means and our prayers, with appropriate fidelity, to this great work.

Resolved, That this General Assembly, and the churches that we represent, are called upon to cherish and manifest the deepest in[235]terest in the work of Foreign Missions, as conducted by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, with which we have been so long and so happily connected, and which has given us such abundant proofs of the skill and fidelity that have marked the management of its great trust, and of the entire fairness of all its arrangements relating to the location of the missionaries connected with our Presbyteries, and their freedom to act, according to the dictates of their own judgment, as to the formation of Presbyteries in their respective fields.

Resolved, That the General Assembly regard with great satisfaction the result of measures, calculated to keep, more fresh and enduring, that bond which unites us with peculiar regard to our own ministers and their beloved partners in the missionary field, and we trust, that those dear brethren will permit us to hear from them annually, hereafter, through the Permanent Committee.

Resolved, That each Presbytery connected with the Assembly be earnestly requested, to arrange, at their next meeting, for the thorough and systematic presentation of the claims of the cause of Foreign Missions to each of their churches, and, as far as possible, to every member thereof; and to appoint one of their ministers or elders as the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions, whose duty it shall be, to see that the cause is presented to each church; to report at each meeting of the Presbytery; and also to report annually, to the Permanent Committee of the Assembly, what each church in the Presbytery has done for the cause during the year; and that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be requested to furnish to the Permanent Committee the name of the minister, or elder, who shall be appointed the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions.

Resolved. That the Stated Clerk of the Assembly be directed to supply each of our foreign missionaries with a copy of the Minutes of each General Assembly.

The term of office of William E. Dodge, Joseph H. Tuttle, Thomas Bond, Edward A. Lambert, and Walter S. Griffith, as members of the Permanent Committee, expires at this time. The Committee recommend that they be re-elected.

The Rev. Septimus Tustin, D. D., a Delegate from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now in session at Peoria, Ill., appeared in the Assembly, and his name was entered upon the Roll.

The Judicial Committee presented a report. Pending the discussion of a motion to adopt, the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [236]

Monday, May 25th, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner was reported, and his name was added to the Roll:

Ellis J. Newlin, Minister, of the Presbytery of Newark.

An invitation from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, to visit their fortieth exhibition, was received and unanimously accepted.

Resolved, That this Assembly cordially approve of the design and operations of the American Sunday-School Union; and they renewedly commend this national and catholic institution to the sympathy, prayers and benefactions of the Church.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee. After debate, the report was re-committed.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 4½ o'clock P. M., to hear the Delegates from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at Peoria, Ill.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Ordered, That, hereafter, the time occupied by the devotional exercises of each morning be extended to one hour.

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of the Rev. Selden Haines, the Rev. Ellis J. Newlin, the Rev. Charles Doolittle, and Messrs. William S. Atchinson and John B. Porter.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave of absence to Mr. Frederick E. Platt, from the Presbytery of Tioga.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Edward W. French, the Rev. Calvin Waterbury, and the Rev. Henry J. Acker, was appointed *to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The Treasurer of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions presented his annual report, which was accepted and approved. [237]

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was added to the Roll:

Anthony Green, Elder, from the Presbytery of Milwaukee.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the Lord's Supper be celebrated on Thursday, at 4 o'clock P. M., agreeably to the following order: The Moderator to preside; the Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., to administer the Bread, and the Rev. Benjamin B. Parsons to administer the Cup; the Elders, Ambrose White, David A. Smith, Russell Scarritt, Calvin H. Chase, John A. Foot, and D. D. Dayton, M. D., to distribute the Bread; and the Elders, Benedict D. Stewart, Daniel Hewson, George W. Hoffman, Nathaniel C. Taylor, Spencer Kellogg, and Walter S. Griffith, to distribute the Cup. The report was adopted.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, on the establishment of independent missions in Mexico and in Central and South America, presented their report, which was accepted and put upon the docket.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, to receive the report of the Committee on the State of the Country.

The Committee to nominate a *Committee of Arrangements* for the next General Assembly recommended the appointment of the following persons: The Rev. S. Granby Spees, D. D., the Hon. Peter Odlin, and Messrs. Robert W. Steele, Winslow S. Phelps, and Preserved Smith. The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee presented their revised report, which, after discussion, was again re-committed.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 1, as follows:

The Commissioners from the Synod of Missouri respectfully represent to the General Assembly, that we have been unable to hold a meeting for two years past—the disturbed state of affairs in our part of the country preventing. In accordance with the action of our Presbyteries, and the known wish of our members, we request the General Assembly to authorize a meeting of the Synod of Missouri, to be held on Friday, the 18th of September next, at 7 o'clock P. M., in Troy, Doniphan Co., Kansas, or to authorize the Stated Clerk of the Synod to call a meeting at the time and place to be agreed upon by the members of the Synod, as he shall, by consultation, ascertain their wish.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the latter alternative, namely, that the Assembly authorize the Stated Clerk of the Synod to call a meeting as suggested.

The recommendation was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 2, on the Eldership and Manses, from Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, as follows: [238]

Having, for several years past, been examining the current history of the Presbyterian Church, in order to prepare and publish all that could, in any manner, tend to develop her power and progress, I have felt the need of reliable data by which the numerical strength of the eldership could be obtained.

Entering so largely into the polity of the Church, the importance of inquiries on this subject is readily admitted, and I have thought that, possibly, the time has arrived when it would be wise to institute these inquiries.

A wide-spread correspondence with ministers and elders has led me to believe that good might result from inquiries into the condition of the Church, regarding the efforts made by the people to provide comfortable homes for their ministers, known as manses. In the present state of affairs, all that could be expected would be inquiries upon the subject, with a request that, in the "Narrative of the State of Religion," which each Presbytery now makes to the General Assembly, they also report the efforts made to provide such homes for the ministry.

These matters have such a direct bearing upon the polity of the Presbyterian Church, that I trust the General Assembly may take such action in the premises as, in their judgment, the cause demands. In order to present the subject in a tangible form, I ask the privilege of presenting the following Overture:

This General Assembly requires the churches to report, to the Presbyteries to which they severally belong, the number of ruling elders connected with each church, said number to be reported in the usual way by the Presbyteries for publication in the Statistical Table of the Minutes of the General Assembly, and that each Presbytery include, in their Narrative of the State of Religion, what provision has been made, or is now being made, to erect manses, and thereby furnish comfortable homes for the ministry.

The Overture was referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., the Rev. George E. Day, D. D., the Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, and Messrs. William E. Dodge, George W. Lane, and Edward A. Lambert.

Also, Overture No. 3, with an answer, which was put upon the docket.

An invitation was received from the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company, inviting the Assembly to take a free excursion upon their road to and from Atlantic City, N. J. The invitation was accepted, with the thanks of the Assembly, and Saturday was designated as the time for the excursion.

Twenty-five copies of an engraved picture of the Union Refreshment Saloon were presented to the Assembly, which were accepted with thanks.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [239]

Tuesday, May 26th, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Septimus Tustin, D. D., and Mr. John M. Harper, Delegates from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session in Peoria, Ill., addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

The Assembly then united in singing the hymn commencing with the words, "Blest be the tie that binds," and were led in prayer by the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

An invitation from the Academy of Natural Sciences to visit their institution was received, and accepted with thanks.

Resolved, That the Committee, to whom was referred the subject of Manses, be requested to inquire and report in respect to the number and extent of pastoral libraries connected with our churches.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. Charles Anderson, of the Presbytery of Cayuga.
" John C. Smith, D. D., " District of Columbia.
Mr. David Gillmur, " New York, Third.
" William W. Parkhurst, " Newark.
" Isaac L'Hommedieu, " Portage.
" William D. Walcott, " Utica.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was accepted, and put upon the docket.

The following additional Commissioner and Delegate were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, of the Presbytery of Chicago.

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.

The Committee on the State of the Country presented their report, which was accepted. Pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [240]

Wednesday, May 27th, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the report of the Standing Committee on Education; and the second order to receive the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, previously presented and accepted, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Polity of the Church have had under consideration the following Overture from the Presbytery of Genesee:

Overture of the Presbytery of Genesee to the General Assembly meeting at Philadelphia, May 21st, 1863.

We petition for a revision of the Directory for Worship, with a view to the following points:

1. To reclaim the Sabbath afternoon, or evening, expressly for family instruction, and to enforce the duty of parents.

2. To give a constitutional recognition to the Sabbath-school, as a cherished

instrumentality of the Church for the nurture of her own youth, and the evangelization of others; and to provide that the time appropriated be ample, as esteeming this to be a cardinal means of grace.

3. To restrict its assemblies, in all ordinary cases, to one part of the day, so as to avoid trenching upon the time appropriated to the paramount duties of parents.

4. To secure to the pastor, unequivocally, as the divinely-appointed teacher of the lambs of the flock, the prerogative, and hold him to the responsibility, of presidency over the school, with provision for a vice-president, or superintendent, to serve in the absence of the pastor.

5. To recognize the church session as invested with authority, and responsible for the details of the organization, the appointment and removal of teachers, and the whole government of the school.

6. To provide for such a system of distinctive instruction as will secure to our youth a thorough training, not only in the doctrines of grace, but in the principles of order which the Scriptures set forth, and keep continually before their minds the burden of baptismal obligations, and the value of covenant privileges, as sealed to the children of God's people.

The Committee recommend, that the Assembly reply to the above Overture as follows:

The matters, in view of which the Presbytery of Genesee ask a revision of the Directory for Worship, are mainly such that, according to our Constitution, it is already competent to every [241] church to regulate them for itself, agreeably to its own views of what will best promote its growth and spiritual welfare.

The Directory for Worship expresses the opinion of the Church, that the evenings of the Lord's day, after public worship, should be sacredly reserved for the religious instruction of children by their parents. (See Chap. XV., sec. 5.)

The Sunday-school—like all the religious institutions and agencies of each individual church—is, and ought to be, under the watch and care of the session; and should be regarded, not as superseding, but as co-operating with, the entire system of pastoral instruction, the responsibilities of which it should not in any manner diminish.

There is nothing in our Constitution which prescribes the number of public services to be held on the Lord's day, or which restrains any church from appropriating to the Sunday-school such a portion of the day as may seem to them desirable.

The peculiar position of baptized children as members of the Church, to be, as members, trained in all Christian virtues and duties, is so expressly set forth in our standards, that no revision of them could present it with greater clearness, or in a more authoritative form. (See "Confession," Chap. XXV., sec. 2; "Larger Catechism," Ques. 166; "Form of Government," Chap. II., secs. 2, 4; "Book of Discipline," Chap. I., sec. 6; "Directory for Worship," Chap. IX., secs. 1–3.)

The Assembly, therefore, judge that no necessity demands the revision which is asked for, and simply recommend to the churches to conform their ideas and usages to our own standards.

The Rev. Hervey D. Ganse, a Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, appeared, requesting that a correspondence be opened with the body that he represents.

The subject was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Albert Barnes, and the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D.

The Rev. Mr. Ganse was invited to a seat in the Assembly as a correspondent.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, namely, the report of the Committee on the State of the Country. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the State of the Country beg leave to submit to the General Assembly the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, A rebellion, most unjust and causeless in its origin, and unholy in its objects, now exists in this country, against the Government established by the wisdom and sacrifices of our fathers, rendering necessary the employment of the armed forces of the nation to suppress it, and involving the land in the horrors of civil war; and [242]

Whereas, The distinctly avowed purpose of the leaders of this rebellion is the dissolution of our national Union, the dismemberment of the country, and the establishment of a new confederacy within the present territorial limits of the United States, based on the system of human slavery as its chief corner-stone; and

Whereas, From the relation of the General Assembly to the churches which they represent, and as citizens of the Republic, and in accordance with the uniform action of our Church in times of great national peril, it is eminently proper that this General Assembly should give expression to its views, in a matter so vitally affecting the interests of good government, liberty, and religion; and

Whereas, On two previous occasions since the war commenced, the General Assembly has declared its sentiments in regard to this rebellion, and its determination to sustain the Government in this crisis of our national existence; and

Whereas, Unequivocal and decided as has been our testimony on all previous occasions, and true and devoted as has been the loyalty of our ministers, elders, and people, this General Assembly deems it a duty to the Church and the country, to utter its deliberate judgment on the same general subject; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly solemnly re-affirms the principles and repeats the declarations, of previous General Assemblies of our Church, so far as applicable to this subject and to the present aspect of public affairs.

2. That in explanation of our views, and as a further and solemn expression of the sentiments of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, in regard to the duty of those whom we represent, and of all the American people at the present time, we now declare,

First, That civil government is ordained of God; and that submission to a lawful government, and to its acts in its proper sphere, is a duty binding on the conscience, and required by all the principles of our religion, as a part of our allegiance to God.

Second, That while there is, in certain respects, a ground of distinction between a government, considered as referring to the Constitution of a country, and an administration, considered as referring to the existing agencies, through which the principles and provisions of the Constitution are administered; yet, the government of a country, to which direct allegiance and loyalty are due at any time, is the administration duly placed in power. Such an administration is the government of a nation; having a right to execute the laws, and to demand the entire, unqualified, and prompt obedience of all who are under its authority; and resistance to such a government is rebellion and treason.

Third, That the present administration of the United States, duly elected under the Constitution, is the government in the land, to which, alone, under

God, all the citizens of this nation owe allegiance; who, as such, are to be honored and obeyed; whose efforts to defend the government against rebellion are to be sustained; and that all attempts to resist, or set aside, the action of the law[243]fully-constituted authorities of the government, in any way, by speech or action, to oppose, or embarrass, the measures which it may adopt to assert its lawful authority, except in accordance with the forms prescribed by the Constitution, are to be regarded as treason against the nation, as giving aid and comfort to its enemies, and as rebellion against God.

Fourth. That, in the execution of the laws, it is the religious duty of all good citizens, promptly and cheerfully to sustain the Government by every means in their power; to stand by it in its peril; and to afford all needful aid in suppressing insurrection and rebellion, and restoring obedience to lawful authority in every part of the land.

3. That, much as we lament the evils, the sorrows, the sufferings, the desolations, the sad moral influences of war, and its effect on the religion and churches of the land; much as we have suffered in our most tender relations; yet the war, in our view, is to be prosecuted with all the vigor and power of the nation, until peace shall be the result of victory, until rebellion is completely subdued, until the legitimate power and authority of the Government is fully re-established over every part of our territorial domain, and until the flag of the nation shall wave as the emblem of its undisputed sovereignty; and that, to the prosecution and attainment of this object, all the resources of the nation in men and wealth should be solemnly pledged.

4. That the Government of these United States, as provided for by the Constitution, is not only founded upon the great doctrine of human rights, as vested by God in the individual man, but is also expressly declared to be the supreme civil authority in the land, forever excluding the modern doctrine of secession as a civil or political right; that, since the existing rebellion finds no justification in the facts of the case, or the Constitution of the United States, in any law, human or divine, the Assembly can regard it only as treason against the nation, and a most offensive sin in the sight of God, justly exposing its authors to the retributive vengeance of earth and Heaven; that this rebellion, in its origin, history, and measures, has been distinguished by those qualities which most sadly evince the depravity of our nature, especially in seeking to establish a new nationality on this continent, based on the perpetual enslavement and oppression of a weak and long-injured race; that the national forces are, in the view of this Assembly, called out, not to wage war against another government, but to suppress insurrection, preserve the supremacy of law and order, and save the country from anarchy and ruin.

5. That, in such a contest, with such principles and interests at stake, not only affecting the peace, prosperity, and happiness of this our beloved country for all future time, but involving the cause of human liberty throughout the world, loyalty, unreserved and unconditional, to the constitutionally-elected Government of the United States, not as the transient passion of the hour, but as the intelligent and permanent state of the public conscience, rising [244] above all questions of party politics, rebuking and opposing the foul spirit of treason, whenever and in whatever form exhibited, speaking earnest words of truth and soberness alike through the pulpit, the press, and in all the walks of domestic and social life, making devout supplications to God, and giving the most cordial support to those who are providentially intrusted with the enactment and execution of the laws, is not only a sacred Christian obligation, but is indispensable, if we would save the nation, and perpetuate the glorious inheritance that we possess, to future generations.

6. That the system of human bondage as existing in the slaveholding

States, so palpably the root and cause of this whole insurrectionary movement, not only is a violation of the dearest rights of human nature, but is essentially hostile to the letter and spirit of the Christian religion; that the evil character and demoralizing tendencies of this system, so properly described, and justly condemned, by the General Assemblies of our Church, especially from 1818 to the present time, have been placed in the broad light of day by the history of this existing rebellion; that, in the sacrifices and desolations, the cost of treasure and blood caused thereby, the Assembly recognizes the chastening hand of God, applied to the punishment of national sins, especially the sin of Slavery; that, in the Proclamation of Emancipation issued by the President as a war-measure, and submitted by him to the considerate judgment of mankind, the Assembly recognizes with devout gratitude that wonder-working providence of God, by which military necessities become the instruments of justice, in breaking the yoke of oppression, and causing the oppressed to go free; and further, that the Assembly beseeches Almighty God in his own time to remove the last vestiges of Slavery from this country, and give to the nation, preserved, disciplined, and purified, a peace that shall be based on the principles of eternal righteousness.

7. That this General Assembly commends the President of the United States, and the members of his Cabinet, to the care and guidance of the great Ruler of nations, praying that they may have that wisdom which is profitable to direct; and, also, that the patriotism and moral sense of the people may give to them all that support and co-operation, which the exigencies of their position and the perils of the nation so urgently demand.

8. That, in the ardor with which so many members of our churches, and of the churches of all the religious denominations of our land, have gone forth to the defence of our country, placing themselves upon her altars in this struggle for national life, we see an illustration, not only of the principle of patriotism, but of the principles of our holy religion; that, in the readiness with which such vast numbers have, at the call of their country, devoted themselves to its service, we see a demonstration, which promises security to our institutions in all times of future danger; that we tender the expression of our admiration and hearty thanks to all the officers and men of our army and navy; that those who have [245] nobly fallen, and those who survive, have secured an imperishable monument in the hearts of their countrymen; and that this Assembly regards all efforts for the physical comfort, or spiritual good, of our heroic defenders, as among the sweetest charities, which gratitude can impose, or grateful hands can minister.

9. That this General Assembly exhorts all the churches and ministers, connected with this branch of the Presbyterian Church, and all our countrymen, to stand by their country; to pray for it; to discountenance all forms of complicity with treason; to sustain those who are placed in civil or military authority over them: and to adopt every means, and at any cost, which an enlightened, self-sacrificing patriotism may suggest, as appropriate to the wants of the hour; having on this subject one heart and one mind; waiting hopefully on Providence; patient amid delays; undaunted by reverses; persistent and untiring in effort, until, by the blessing of God, the glorious motto, "One country, one Constitution, and one destiny," shall be enthroned, as the sublime fact of the present, and the more sublime harbinger of the future.

10. That this General Assembly tenders its affectionate condolence, and heartfelt sympathy, to the bereaved families of all the heroic men who have fallen in this contest for national life; and especially to the families of the officers and members of our churches, who have poured out their lives on

the altar of their country, with the assurance that they will not be forgotten, in their bereavement, by us, or by a grateful people.

11. That a copy of this action, duly authenticated, be transmitted to the President of the United States, by the hands of those members of the Assembly, who are about to visit Washington city; and that this paper be read in all our pulpits.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented Overture No. 1, on the Sanctification of the Sabbath, as follows:

Resolved, 1. That, inasmuch as "the Sabbath was made for man," by the omniscient God, and is indispensable to our highest social, civil, and religious welfare, this General Assembly regards it as not only the duty, but the right and privilege of all men to "remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy."

2. That, as the law of the Sabbath is divinely given, without [246] limitation of time, and unrepealed, its claims for our obedience are supreme and perpetual.

3. That, in order to give full power to the Gospel in the salvation of souls, professors of religion, and ministers of the Gospel especially, should carefully sanctify the Lord's day, and give no countenance, directly or indirectly, to its desecration.

4. That the physical and mental, as well as moral interests of man demand the day of holy rest; and that the entire community should manifest a grateful appreciation of this gift of Heaven, by an unperverted sacred observance of the Christian Sabbath.

5. That, at this time of public strife, of fearful anxiety and suffering, while we are heartily loyal to our Government, we should most sincerely deprecate and deplore any unnecessary labor review, or battle on the Lord's day; lest, by disloyalty to God, we dishonor Him, incur His fierce indignation, and, as a sad result, meet with signal defeat to our arms, and terrible calamities to our nation, from Him who is the God of battles and of nations, and who honors them that honor Him.

6. That it be earnestly requested of all the pastors of our churches, fully to instruct their people as to the duty and importance of carefully sanctifying the entire Sabbath, individually, in the family, and in the community; in order that its healthful instructions, and its holy, saving influence, may everywhere permeate the State, the nation, and the world.

7. That each pastor and stated supply of our churches be requested, at some time during the present year, to preach especially upon the Sanctification of the Christian Sabbath.

The Committee recommended its adoption, and at their suggestion the Rev. Russell S. Cook, the secretary of the Sabbath Committee of New York, was invited to speak, and addressed the Assembly on the subject.

The report was adopted.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning to consider the report of the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education respectfully report, that the annual statement of the Permanent Committee on Education, gives gratifying evidence of the wide interest felt in our churches in this department of evangelical labor, the correctness of the general principles on which it has been conducted, and the economy, efficiency, and wisdom with which it has been prosecuted. Many difficulties were to be overcome, before a comprehensive system, which should command the hearty and unanimous co-operation of all our churches, could be secured; but such progress has been made, as to promise, at no distant day, the fullest acceptance of the plan now in operation throughout our entire bounds. The rendering of aid to one hundred and one young men, recommended [247] by the Presbyteries and preparing for the ministry, the payment of a large part of the appropriation required, and the collection of more than fifteen thousand dollars, by means of which this has been accomplished, from churches not exceeding in number one-fourth of those which may be expected to contribute, show that much has been done, and, at the same time, that much remains to be done. Faithfully as some of the Presbyteries have endeavored to carry out the plan of the Assembly, earnestly as many portions have labored to give it efficacy, and liberally as many of our churches have responded, it is evident, from the printed report of receipts, which should be carefully examined by every member of the Assembly for this object, that the work of seeking to bring pious young men of promising gifts into the ministry, and aiding them while in a course of preparation, has still an imperfect hold upon the affections and confidence of not a few who ought to be its warmest friends. The Permanent Committee, therefore, have judged wisely, in calling attention anew to a number of important principles and suggestions, a careful attention to which is evidently essential to the successful prosecution of this great work. These are,—the importance of a sense of personal responsibility, in this department of extra labor, in the breast of every minister of Christ, and every Christian parent; the careful training of children in the family, and through the ordinary preaching of the Gospel, for self-denying life; the faithful attendance of Presbyteries to the details of the plan adopted by the Assembly, and especially the duty of becoming thoroughly satisfied with the piety, good sense, and aptness to teach of those whom they recommend for aid; fidelity, on the part of every church, in taking without fail an annual collection for this object; and the desirableness of the establishment of scholarships by persons of property.

No one thing, perhaps, has operated more injuriously upon the education work of the Church than a lurking impression, in many minds, that young men thus aided are, in general, below the average of their fellows, and that many are helped who ought never to be in the ministry.

That the great expectations of the Church are not in all cases fulfilled, none can deny. That mistakes and omissions may and will be made, so long as men are not infallible, must be admitted. But such cases do not stand alone. Parents are sometimes disappointed in their children; merchants in their clerks; the Government in its officers. We have no right, therefore, to expect, in the selection of young men to be aided, an absolute freedom from error, such as is demanded in no other relations, and such as nothing less than omniscience could secure.

But what the Christian community have a right to expect is, that very great care should be taken in the selection of candidates to be aided, and that all, who are in any way concerned in introducing young men, through the aid of the Church, into the ministry, should do all that human wisdom and caution, Christian fidelity and conscientiousness, can do to prevent the benefactions [248] of the Church from being wasted in the raising up of an inferior and inefficient ministry.

According to the present plan of the Assembly, the responsibility rests, in the first place, upon the pastors and elders of the church to which the applicant belongs, without the recommendation of whom no application can ordinarily be considered; and next upon the Presbytery or its Committee; and if these parties, after carefully and thoroughly examining the evidences of his piety, and in view of his mental aptitude and other qualities, present him as in their judgment called to the work of the ministry, a very considerable degree of security against error in the selection of young men would seem to be obtained.

But, in view of the great importance of this point, the Standing Committee have been led to inquire, whether the security might not be still further increased, by the addition of quarterly reports from the teacher or teachers of every candidate aided, in respect to his Christian and intellectual character and development, and other prominent qualifications required of those who seek the office of a bishop. It is certain that such testimonies, from time to time, would furnish the Permanent Committee and the Presbyteries with some fair means of judging whether the gifts and traits, necessary to make a good minister of Jesus Christ, were becoming steadily developed in the young men aided. The quarterly schedule of expenses, hitherto required, against which objections are sometimes urged, might thus, except in a very general manner, be omitted. In the other branch of the Presbyterian Church this method has been adopted, and with very satisfactory results.

It is therefore recommended that the Fifth Rule of the Assembly for aiding young men be altered to read as follows:

"5. Annual appropriations to students shall not ordinarily exceed one hundred and twenty dollars to theological students, one hundred dollars to collegiate students, and eighty dollars to academic students; nor be such as to cause a student's annual income to exceed two hundred and fifty dollars. Each student, before receiving an appropriation, shall forward, or cause to be forwarded, to the Permanent Committee, a particular report from his instructor, or instructors, or from some correspondent of the Permanent Committee, showing his standing for piety, talents, scholarship, diligence, punctuality, prudence, good manners, freedom from expensive and offensive social habits, health, economy, and general good influence. At the close of the year, a copy of these quarterly reports shall be furnished, by the Permanent Committee, to the Presbytery recommending him. The student shall, also, at the same time, make to the Presbytery, in writing, a report as to his progress, wants, and prospects. Presbyteries, recommending students, shall renew their applications, from year to year, after receiving and considering such reports; and shall specify the amount necessary for the student, for the year for which the application is made." [249]

The reports, from Auburn, Lane, and Union Theological Seminaries, show them to be less unfavorably affected by the war than was apprehended; and, on the whole, to be in a prosperous condition; but requiring to be more amply endowed, in order to reach their highest usefulness.

The work of construction, in regard to our Educational System, is substantially finished. What is now needed is a united, hearty, and persistent effort to secure the great end before us.

We recommend to the Assembly to adopt the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the success of our Plan of Education for the Ministry, the past year, has been such, as to justify and strengthen the confidence of the Church in its economy and efficiency.

2. That the earnest and hearty co-operation of the pastors, churches, and Presbyteries in the plan, marked out and described in the "Educational Manual," is essential to the highest prosperity of the Church; and that a careful attention to the rules and suggestions on the ninth, twelfth, and fourteenth pages be recommended to all the members of the Presbyteries.

3. That, in order the more effectually to secure an annual collection for Education from every church, the question be recommended to be regularly placed upon the docket of business in each Presbytery, at the meeting next previous to the meeting of the Assembly: Has the Education Collection been taken in your church within the past year?

The Committee nominate the following persons as members of the Permanent Committee for three years, to take the place of those whose term of service has expired: Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., LL.D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., and Messrs. Jesse W. Benedict, William W. Wickes, and Salem H. Wales.

The Committee, to whom was referred the proposition of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, to institute a correspondence with this body, reported. Before the discussion closed, upon a motion to adopt the report, the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 28th, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of the ordinance.

The report of the Special Committee on the establishment of independent missions in Mexico, Central America, and South America, was referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions. [250]

The Committee on Mileage presented their report:

The Mileage Committee respectfully report:

That 76 Presbyteries have paid their full quota of five cents for each communicant, to the General Assembly's Fund, as follows:

Catskill, St. Lawrence, Geneva, Chemung, Ithaca, Wellsborough, Lyons, Cayuga, Tioga, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Genesee, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Grand River, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Ripley, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Keokuk, Iowa City, Dubuque, Cedar Valley, Dakota, Minnesota, Winona, St. Louis, Lexington, Northern Missouri, and Kansas.

That 6 Presbyteries have paid in full to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, and have paid, in addition, a portion of the mileage assessment, viz.:

Albany, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Rochester, Rockaway.

That 11 Presbyteries have paid to the Contingent Fund, at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, viz.:

Champlain, Columbia, Steuben, Otsego, Chenango, Genesee Valley, Meadville, Detroit, Athens, Franklin, St. Joseph.

That 1 Presbytery, Troy, has contributed to the Contingent Fund at the rate of fifty-three cents for each minister; and one, Logansport, at the rate of sixty cents.

That 11 Presbyteries have contributed nothing towards the expenses of the General Assembly, viz.:

Oswego, Cortland, Niagara, District of Columbia, Portage, Elyria, Pataskala, Chariton, San Francisco, Sierra Nevada, San José.

The amount received by the Mileage Committee is	$4987.81
The amount of bills audited and allowed for mileage and expenses is..	4607.60
The estimate presented by the Stated Clerk for the Contingent Expenses of the Assembly is........................	900.00
Leaving a balance toward the payment of the mileage bills of	4087.82

A sum that will pay eighty-five cents on the dollar of the amount of said bills.

The Committee would, therefore, recommend that eighty-five per cent. of the bills for mileage and necessary expenses of the Commissioners to this Assembly, as audited by the Committee, be paid to them, and that the balance be paid to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, to be applied to the Contingent Fund.

Your Committee would also recommend, that five cents for each communicant be assessed on the Presbyteries, for the necessary [251] expenses of the Commissioners and for the Contingent Fund of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted, and the Committee were instructed to pay the bills of the Commissioners, according to the proposed ratio, and the balance to the Stated Clerk for the contingent expenses of the Assembly.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Committee on Correspondence with the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church. Before closing the discussion, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their report. It was accepted; and, after an address by the Secretary of the Permanent Committee, was put upon the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, namely, the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Publication. The report was accepted, and the resolutions appended to it were adopted. It is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom were referred the eleventh annual report of the Permanent Publication Committee, and the ninth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, beg leave to report:

That the experience and policy of all the principal denominations of Christians in this country and elsewhere demonstrate the indispensableness of a publishing agency, specially in the interest and under the control of each ecclesiastical communion; and it was the slowly, but irresistibly, produced conviction of this, from which sprang the Permanent Publication Committee in our catholic and co-operative Church. The lessons of the past year, and particularly those that have been learned from the missionary section of our home field, deepen the conviction previously formed. The attention of the Assembly is particularly called to that portion of the report referred to us, entitled, "Our Publications Wanted."

While the indispensableness of our own publishing agency is no longer an open question among us, the expediency of certain measures, undertaken by it, was spoken of, as rather doubtful by the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, presented to the last General Assembly; and, in consequence of that, and of the discussions that ensued, the subject was referred to a Special Committee, with instructions to report to this body. Your Committee [252] beg leave to submit herewith, as their views on the controverted points, and to which they trust your sanction will be given, a document prepared for another occasion, and to request its publication by the Permanent Committee.

If it be conceded that we must have a publishing agency of our own, and, if there be a concurrence in it, as now presented by the Publication Committee, it is obvious that the resources for it ought to be greatly increased. The whole scheme is exposed to contempt, if, after a trial of eleven years, it is left at its present scale of donations and sales; and we cannot expect the officers and members of the Committee to continue their assiduous services to us, while the cause is apparently so much depreciated by us. While they labor unsparingly, they are put to the mortification of reporting the small sum of $4212.44, as received the last year from contributions and $15,722.33 from sales. Their management of the finances has been most economical and skilful. The expenses were reduced more than one thousand dollars, the year just closed; and the books are so kept, that the profit and loss in each department of business and from each publication, may be accurately determined.

Can anything be done to bring the pecuniary investment in it into much nearer proportions to the magnitude of the cause, and to a nearer approach to what is made by other denominations? Your Committee beg leave to present a few suggestions on this topic.

1. A depository of our publications might be established in the City of New York, containing as full a supply as that in the City of Philadelphia, and so maintained as to meet its own expenses, and to diffuse interest in the cause and greatly promote the circulation of the publications. Indeed, the General Assembly of 1854 directed that "all publications should issue simultaneously in New York and Philadelphia."

2. Our Sunday-schools may cast more than mites into the treasury, not only by the purchase of our books, but the employment of our depository in purchasing supplies for their libraries from different publication houses.

3. The "Church Psalmist" may be more extensively introduced into our churches; and, with a view to this, the cautions and recommendations of the last General Assembly ought to be brought again, and more carefully, to the attention of our judicatories and congregations. (Minutes of the last Assembly, p. 30.)

4. A more extensive agency may be employed, to acquaint the ministers and members of our churches with the merits and necessities of the cause, and to procure contributions to it. These are but little understood, compared with those of our other great enterprises, and they will not be appreciated and responded to until they are sounded forth, and echoed, and re-echoed by the living voice.

5. An earnest and persistent effort may be at once begun, to collect a fund of $50,000; forty thousand of which might be ap[253]propriated towards swelling the now small capital of the Publication Committee, and ten thou-

sand towards reducing the incumbrance on the Presbyterian House. Without such an increase of capital, the Committee can perform only a diminutive work. The production of each work involves an outlay, the income from which is necessarily more or less remote. Copyrights, stereotype plates, paper, printing, and binding must be promptly paid for, while sales are delayed to distant days; and this is pre-eminently true of the kind of works, which we wish our Committee to issue. The capital of the Book Concern of the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, is about $700,000; that of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. is $225,000; and the Baptist Church have recently added considerably to their previously large capital. Ours is only about $20,000.

6. A minister or elder may be appointed in each Presbytery, to act as the special agent of the Committee, to diffuse information, to circulate tracts and bound volumes, and to provide for bringing the cause annually to the notice of each church in the Presbytery to which he belongs, and to procure contributions for it.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the General Assembly have a confirmed conviction of the indispensableness of a publishing agency under its own auspices and control; that its books should be those of a practical and experimental, as well as of a doctrinal character; and that they should issue from its publishing agency, and not from private houses.

2. That the thanks of the Church are due, and are hereby expressed, by the General Assembly, to the Permanent Publication Committee, for the wisdom, zeal, patience and liberality, with which they have served the cause committed to them, and that entire confidence is reposed in the spirit and policy by which they are promoting it.

3. That the Permanent Publication Committee is hereby instructed, to provide for a constantly full depository of our tracts and books in the City of New York.

4. That it is recommended to our Sunday-schools to supply themselves with our Sunday-school books, and employ our depositories in New York and Philadelphia, when they seek such an agency to supply their libraries.

5. That this General Assembly hereby re-affirm the action of the last General Assembly in reference to the Church Psalmist, and that the Stated Clerk is directed to notify it to the Presbyteries, and report to the next General Assembly what attention has been paid to it.

6. That each Presbytery annually appoint a minister or elder to see to it, that the Publication cause is presented annually to the churches in its connection, to secure contributions to it, and that these agents report their labors to the Secretary of the Permanent Committee as early as the 1st of April of each year. [254]

7. That the Permanent Committee be advised to employ a salaried agency for the present, to communicate information, in regard to the Publication cause, and to stimulate liberality to it.

8. That the Permanent Committee are directed, if in their judgment it is expedient, to inaugurate and vigorously to prosecute an effort to raise a fund of $50,000; forty thousand of which shall be applied as their capital in trade, and ten thousand towards the removal of the incumbrance on the Presbyterian House; and that, as the money is raised, and whatever portion of it is raised, be appropriated, in the ratio of four to the Publication Committee, and of one to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

9. That Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Hon. William Strong, whose term

of service now expires, be re-appointed members of the Permanent Publication Committee for the ensuing three years.

The report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, referred to this Committee, represents that, although the receipts of the past year have somewhat exceeded those of the preceding year, they have not been sufficient to admit of any reduction of the debt of about $20,000, still remaining on the house. The property was obtained at a very low price, and generously tendered to the General Assembly, by the purchaser, for the sum he paid for it; and, after contributing himself ten thousand dollars, fifteen thousand more were collected principally in the city of Philadelphia. It is due to justice and good faith, that other members and portions of the Church should now provide at least one half of this amount, to ease the incumbrance on the much-needed and valuable house.

It is an instructive fact, that three of the four legacies referred to in the report of the Trustees, as left to them in trust for the benevolent schemes of the Church, have been contested by the heirs-at-law. Money for the treasury of the Lord is much more sure of its destination, when given during the donor's lifetime, than when left to be appropriated after one's death.

The Committee recommend that Charles S. Wurts, M. D., John C. Farr, Esq., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Rev. Daniel March, and Rev. William T. Eva, be appointed Trustees of the Presbyterian House for the ensuing three years.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Correspondence with the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, and, after amendment, it was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, in the matter of the Overture from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, respectfully report to the Assembly the following minute, for their adoption, namely:

The Assembly, after considering the kind and earnest address of the Rev. Hervey D. Ganse, and considering also the "printed Minutes of the Acts and the proceedings" of said General Synod, [255] (see pp. 138–140 inclusive,) especially the resolution and its preamble, (p. 140,) with Christian and catholic regret, feel constrained in righteousness and truth, to decline the special Overture now made to us. But that we, hereby, cordially offer correspondence with them, on the same basis on which we correspond with other ecclesiastical bodies; and appoint the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D., principal, and the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., alternate, Commissioners to attend the meeting of their next General Synod.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence, reported, that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. Amos Crocker,	of the Presbytery of	Cayuga.
" Charles Doolittle,	"	Albany.
" Abram Blakeley,	"	Lyons.
" Edward Allen,	"	Montrose.
Mr. William J. Redstrake,	"	Dist. of Columbia.
" Lucius L. Day,	"	Peoria.
" Ezekiel Baker, M. D.,	"	Troy.
" William F. Wilson, M. D.,	"	Scioto.

Mr. William Root, of the Presbytery of Montrose.
" Frederick H. Bartholomew, " New York, Fourth.
" Lewis F. Street, " North River.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

This General Assembly is happy to learn, and to call the attention of our ministers and laymen to the fact, that, since the meeting of the last General Assembly, a union has been formed between the *Presbyterian Quarterly* and the *American Theological Reviews;* and that such arrangements have been made for the conduct and publication of the united quarterly, under the name of the *American Presbyterian and Theological Review*, as will, it is believed, secure its cordial and earnest devotion to the interests of our branch of the Church. Being under the editorial control of several of the most distinguished ministers in our connection, representing various sections and institutions, and in the full confidence, from the numbers already issued, the pledges given, and the talent enlisted in it, that it will be true to the principles, and ably serve the cause of our denomination, this General Assembly takes pleasure in cordially commending it to the patronage of our ministers and churches. [256]

The report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Home Missions beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have given careful and protracted attention to the matters intrusted to them, to wit: To the second annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions; to a memorial from the Presbytery of Scioto; and to certain verbal communications made by individuals, who have had access to our sessions.

Among the many topics of interest thus brought to the attention of the Committee, the following solicit, and seem to deserve, the special regards of this General Assembly, namely:

The very instructive history of this first full year's experiment of Home Missions, conducted upon the Assembly's plan:

The remarkable reply of the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society to the General Assembly, in which it is set forth, as the rule of that Society, to withhold from the Presbyterian Church all share in the moneys which it receives from Presbyterian sources, except on the impossible condition, that the party seeking aid shall disown its organic relations, dissolve its ecclesiastical bonds, and desert a Church to join a Society:

The employment of Presbyterial missionaries; the work in hand for the coming year; the measures to be adopted for its accomplishment; and the relative importance of this particular branch of Christian activity.

Upon these several themes, the Committee would offer the following suggestions:

The history of the first year of any Christian enterprise, involving as it does the birth of some new religious movement, and the infancy of some unfolding force in the kingdom of God, has, in every case, a prophetic interest, since it appropriates, and in some sense determines, the future. The first year of our Christianity, after it was left in this world by its absent and ascended Head; the first year of this same Christianity entering among a new people, Greek, or Roman, or Celt; the first year of this religion in any single converted soul; what trials, what conflicts, what lessons, what hopes, what issues are wrapped up in these little vernal periods, these seed times of the kingdom of grace.

Within this last year, pregnant of so many causes, and decisive of so many results, we have tried our churches, whether they had the zeal to sustain, our Committee, whether they possessed the skill to manage,—our missionaries, whether they felt the courage to hazard, or the devotion to abet,—the new undertaking. Nay, we have made our appeal to the supreme Arbiter and Judge himself, whether, sitting in the heavens and surveying our work, he would impress upon it the seal of his own approbation, and adopt it as his cause and ours.

And over all these tests and issues we have received, and in a twelvemonth, omens of such auspicious import, that we are enabled, [257] at the end of this first stadium of our Home Missionary career, to erect a monument of humble assurance, and say, with devout thanksgiving, that all things are working together for good to the cause which we love.

In December last, the Permanent Committee having been instructed thereto by the previous Assembly, addressed a note to the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society, asking that Committee to adopt some rule that should enable them to deal, out of their abundant charities, an occasional moiety to such Presbyterian churches as might be in temporary distress, through lack of immediate assistance from our stinted and overtaxed and incapable treasury. We have just embarked upon an arduous enterprise, which was as difficult as it was complicated and just.

It was well known, that the American Home Missionary Society had in its treasury, in the form of legacies and contributions, more than thirty thousand dollars, that had come to it from churches still in connection with this Assembly. It was equally well known, that this money had been given, not with the intent, on the part of the donors, to put it beyond the reach of the Presbyterian churches, but for the very purpose of putting it within their reach.

Aware of these facts, and supposing that the Presbyterian Church had the same right to receive, from the American Home Missionary Society, that it had to give to it, the General Assembly said to that Society: "Here are some of our poor—freely ye have received, freely give." The answer of the Executive Committee has been read to this Assembly already. In it the Society re-affirms the so-called doctrine of co-operation. The Presbyterian Church, in assuming its own Home Missionary work, has ceased to make the American Home Missionary Society the exclusive channel of its charities, and the single organ of its endeavors. That act, the Committee say, severs the ancient bond and terminates the former co-operation. Be it so: what follows? Our co-operation with the American Home Missionary Society consisted of two co-ordinate factors, which must, in their very nature, stand or fall together. We were to share with that Society in a reciprocity alike of gifts and receipts. We were to render, because we could receive; and to receive, because we had rendered; sowing and reaping, watering and being watered,—that was to be the law of love and interchange so long as we continued together. If, then, the action of the General Assembly, establishing a Home Missionary Board for its own uses, had been, as it was not, a violation of their previous compact with the American Society, and if there had been just causes, as there were not, for declaring the co-operation null and ended, the act of the Society, so deciding, should have included both the elements in which co-operation consists. The American Home Missionary Society should have said to all our churches, "Co-operation is at an end; bring neither your gifts nor your needs any more. Your Assembly has ruptured the ancient compact, so that you have no longer a right to our charities, nor we to your [258] contributions." But the Society has made no such decision. When our wealthy churches approach their exchequer to cast in their gifts, they are as welcome as if co-operation were in full force as of old. It is only when our needy ones draw near,—only when, having discharged the duties of co-operation, and put thousands into their treasury,—we ask for its benefits, imploring a pittance of what is our own, that we are reminded of the consequences, that ensue from co-operation concluded. "By mutual assent, co-operation has ceased," say the Executive Committee, "and the effect is, that the Presbyterian churches may give, but not receive; the Home Missionary Society may receive, but not give." Thus, by a skilful adjustment of the penalty in question, it is brought about, that the Presbyterian Church shall lose much, and gain nothing; and the aforesaid Society gain much, and lose nothing. Protesting against such a decision, our churches can yet endure it. By it we are deprived of much money it is true. But there are instances in the history of the world, where to lose is to gain; as there are others, it may be remembered, where to gain is to lose.

The answer of the Executive Committee, to which we have referred, is doubtless authoritative and final. No part of the funds or revenues, that flow down the declivity into their exchequer, will ever reverse its course and return to us. Our only resort, therefore, and only safeguard for the future, must be in wise and timely forecast. Our churches must be informed, and that at once, as to the certain consequences of casting their gifts into that treasury. The hopper will gladly receive the grain, but the mill-stone will be sure to return no bread. Further than this, there are great numbers of our people, who have laid by, in their deeds and wills, large bequests to that Society, with the expectation of benefit to accrue in coming time to our own churches. The General Assembly owes it to these benefactors, and to the cause which they would foster, to disabuse them of their great delusion, and let them know, that every dollar distributed by their executors to the American Home Missionary Society, is a dollar alienated for ever from the uses of the Presbyterian Church.

The Report of the Permanent Committee, and the memorial of the Presbytery of Scioto, lay great stress upon the question of employing missionaries at large, or, as they are styled, in these documents, presbyterial missionaries. And it is only natural, and a thing to be expected, that pastors, and Presbyteries, and sessions, whose field is on the frontier, and around them are the eternal desolations, should earnestly desire a force of movable ministers, who can be sent, at their suggestion, to help an enfeebled brother, or fill a deserted pulpit, or explore an unknown wilderness, or discharge any other occasional and desultory service, which, in their judgment, the cause of Christ may demand. But this is obviously a subject, on which the Permanent Committee must be allowed to exercise a large discretion, and advance slowly; acquiring light, in the only safe or possible way, by the lessons of an experience, [259] which, however tardy it may seem to our impatience, is yet our only reliable guide in the premises.

In no part of the Home Missionary work, is there more danger of waste and unwisdom than in this. Besides, we have but just commenced this grand undertaking, and have as yet neither men nor money, nor information enough to justify much of experiment, or expansion, on this subordinate, and for the present only secondary, field. Our first care must be to seize and hold, and fortify and develop, the points already in our hands. We are laying the foundations of many ages, and, at whatever cost of time or money or patience, we must do this first work first, and do it thoroughly and well. The Standing Committee have given the most careful and candid attention to this subject, hearing and weighing every thing that has been said on both sides. And they are fully convinced, that the Permanent Committee of this Assembly have adopted the right maxims, and are ready to do, and in fact are doing, all that a wise regard to the interests concerned can possibly demand.

The work of Home Missions, which the Assembly has deliberately undertaken to carry forward to its full achievement, is on a field, and under a dispensation, and in a period of our national history, which necessitates its ceaseless expansion, and calls for a continual increase of zeal, and sacrifice, and labor. If our graces unfold,—and they must unfold or perish,—it is that they may possess a larger area, and illumine an ampler space in the kingdom of our Lord. Or, if our field enlarges and our limits expand, it is that our graces may have a broader scope, and our religion a more perfect development. God has set upon our Home Missionary enterprise, during this first year of its history, and three most convincing seals of his approbation, the three most certain marks of his assistance. These have been, (1) our great trial at the commencement; (2) our great success at the end; and (3) the mighty field that opens upon us for the future. Kansas, Colorado, Nevada, yes, and, on the other side of the mountains, California as well,—this whole empire—the destined site of a rich, populous and Christian people,—the Head of the Church offers this entire realm to his advancing children. And the most important question, which this General Assembly has to discuss or decide at its present sitting, is, whether it will march at the head of its own Presbyterian hosts and go up and take possession of this goodly land.

The work of Home Missions is of necessity a divided and two-fold work. Part of it is to be performed on the neglected and needy field; part of it in the hearts of our people at home. To diffuse intelligence, to awaken zeal, to arouse, and inspire, and organize the whole Church, filling it with the Spirit of Christ the Master, thus to get ready the sacramental host for its appointed achievement in this outer field, the General Assembly must give attention to this primal work in the Church at home, or it can never accomplish that derivative task that waits and beckons on the field without. Nothing is so much needed in our communion, [260] at this moment, as a general baptism of the Spirit of God. If the fire of devotion could be rekindled in all our tents, and among all our tribes, we have men enough, we have money enough, we have means enough of every kind, to arise and take possession of this broad middle zone that belts the continent, and, covering it with our churches from the Atlantic to the Pacific, make it a grand Presbyterian galaxy—a queenly girdle on the bride of Christ. In view of the considerations, presented to them in the report and memorial already named, the Committee recommend to the General Assembly, therefore, the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. Of devout thanksgiving to God for all the encouraging omens, by which he has been pleased to acknowledge and assist the cause of Home Missions in our Church, during this first and most trying year of its history.

2. Of entire confidence in the judgment, zeal, and fidelity of the Permanent Committee in their administration thus far: with the desire and expectation that they will, in the future, conduct the difficult and responsible work which they have in hand, upon the same just principles, and according to the same impartial rules, as hitherto.

3. That this General Assembly, recognizing the necessity and duty of

immediate enlargement in the Home Missionary work, earnestly exhorts all its associates, the Synods, the Presbyteries, the churches, the pastors, the children, to co-operate with its Committee, with zeal, purpose and liberality equal to the exigencies of our position, and to our high calling in the Kingdom of God.

4. This General Assembly would most earnestly recommend to all members of our communion, who have made bequests in their wills to the cause of Home Missions, or who contemplate such acts, to provide with especial care that their benefactions shall reach the churches for which they were intended.

5. That Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Charles S. Robinson, the Hon. Joseph Allison, and Alfred C. Post, M. D., be hereby re-elected to the places made vacant by the expiration of their term.

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Home Missions be requested to inquire and report to the next Assembly, in regard to the expediency of publishing, in a popular form, more minute and extended information in regard to that branch of the work of our Church which is specially committed to their care,—the nature of that work,—the extent and character of the field to be occupied,—the results from time to time achieved,—and all those considerations and motives for the prosecution of the work, which may seem to them worthy the attention of the churches.

The Special Committee on Publication, appointed by the last Assembly presented their report. It was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly "to take up and consider the whole subject of the Publication cause, [261] and to report to the next General Assembly," would now respectfully submit the following:

Organized as the Christian Church now is, under different denominations, each must necessarily have, and should have, its own distinctive polity; and the system embodying and setting forth this polity, should not only find a place in its public decisions and documents, but should be carried out conscientiously in all its ecclesiastical movements. In our Presbyterian Formula of doctrine, discipline, and worship, we have a well-defined system, and this should be maintained and adhered to, allowing only—what should always be conceded to every human instrument—a reasonable Christian liberty in its interpretation. Without this we are not Presbyterians.

It is a fundamental doctrine of Presbyterianism, that the Church is one, and that this one body is represented in the General Assembly, which "constitutes the bond of union, peace, correspondence, and mutual confidence," among "all the particular churches of this denomination." It is not like the Roman Catholic, a consolidated body under one temporal head; nor like the independent churches, which form, each for itself, its own ecclesiastical rules, and execute those rules, each by its own inherent right, without consulting the will of any other organization. Our system presents a fine specimen of a spiritual republic. If well and faithfully administered, there can be no danger of unconstitutional oppression, on the one hand, nor of disloyal anarchy on the other. Each individual member enjoys a well-protected Christian liberty in his own particular church, and each session, Presbytery, and Synod, occupies its own position in the organic body, and all subordinate to the General Assembly, with whom is lodged the power "of superintending the concerns of the whole Church." This body is the highest judicatory, and exercises a supervision over all the inferior bodies in the organization, giving "advice and instruction in all cases submitted to them, in conformity with the Constitution of the Church," holding and using the power "of suppressing schismatical contentions and disputations, and, in general, of recommending and attempting reformation of manners, and the promotion of charity, truth, and holiness, through all the churches under their care." And these powers are vested in the Assembly, because the Presbyterian Church is deemed a unit, and the exercise of these powers is simply carrying out the principle, "that the majority shall govern." This is the language used in our "Form of Government."

For some reason—perhaps for many—we have less central power than exists in any other branch of the Presbyterian family; and the acts and recommendations of our General Assembly are less scrupulously regarded by our churches, than may be seen to be the fact in churches in like circumstances, bearing the same name. It has occurred to your Committee, that the following may be among the causes of this very noticeable and peculiar fact: The old Puritan element strongly prevails among us—that is, a wakeful jealousy of personal rights; our churches have received large accessions [262] from the Congregationalists of New England, who pay less homage to authority than to independence; and the experiences of 1837, the memory of strong and unconstitutional measures adopted by our own supreme judicatory, at that period, have made some good and loyal men in our body afraid of the exercise even of legitimate authority. Oppression in Church or State often begets a disrelish for salutary restraints, and sometimes cherishes a spirit of independence, which may look with a critical, if not a jealous, eye, upon the sacred principles of law and order.

Your Committee have made these references to our Constitution, and stated these great principles of all government, because they have a necessary connection with the subject-matter committed to their hands. They are not mere speculations, but are vividly presented and powerfully enforced by the very day in which we live. The want of compactness in our Church, and of united and consentaneous action, and the fewness and the feebleness of our bonds of union, and the ease with which they are relaxed or sundered, when private opinion or personal taste and preference may seem to demand it, will find an appropriate and full illustration in the history of the Publication enterprise. A severe critic, in reading this history, might be disposed to call us—not what we assume to be, "The Constitutional Presbyterian Church," but—the independent, or atomic Presbyterian Church. It was on this ground, that many who were once our brethren in fraternal union, soon after the final disruption of 1838, predicted that we should not hold together long enough to maintain more than one or two General Assemblies. They saw—or thought they saw—certain inherent elements, or existing tendencies among us, which furnished the basis of this prediction. But they were illusions, magnified sometimes by prejudice, and sometimes by hope. But there was doubtless some foundation for the prophecy. There is never a large volume of smoke without some fire. But we have lived on and prospered, though we have not entirely outlived these tendencies to segregation. Our denominational bonds are so feeble, and our catholicism so large—sometimes bordering upon ostentation—that we have often enriched our neighbors at the expense of our own interests. We need an increase of central attraction, and a diminution of repellent forces, in order to put our Church into good working order for the glory of Christ and our own internal prosperity.

Your Committee have intimated, that these positions are illustrated and sustained by the records of our Publication cause.

In the year 1852, the Publication enterprise was born. It was a feeble child, and derived but little generous nutriment from the Church. It received an humble and unpretending name at its baptism; was looked upon with a cold eye by some of the sisterhood in the great family of charities, and utterly disowned by others. It has never been popular among us. Philadelphia is almost the only place where it has been taken into the heart of the Church, and warmed in the large bosom of charity. The friends of the [263] cause owe a thousand thanks to brethren of this city, not less for their labors than their liberality.

It may be said, that this Publication interest has never embodied the energies of the Church, because it has never gained her convictions and her heart. That is the very point your Committee are now attempting to establish. Yet a constitutional majority of the Church, as uttered by successive Assemblies, has given their sanction to its existence and necessity, and commended it most affectionately to the support and patronage of our members. And yet, united action has not been secured. At one time, and in one place, its basis was two narrow; at another time and place, too broad; and thus, by an independent and irresponsible action, a majority of churches and church members has ignored its policy, and stood aloof from its support. The Publication cause, in the eleven years of its existence, has never been permitted to stand up with cheerfulness and conscious dignity, in the midst of the bright sisterhood of benevolence—Home Missions, Foreign Missions, the Education Cause, Church Erection, and Church Extension. It has ever received the sanction of a majority of our Church in one form, and a veto of the same in another. We have never, as yet, been bound together in interest by the golden chain of fraternal co-operation, but by a rope of sand. Your Committee refer only to this cause.

Your Committee are now prepared to say, that a crisis in this Publication scheme has come; and measures should be adopted by this Assembly, which shall give a new and honorable impulse to its movements, or the whole plan should be abandoned at once. While they do not overlook, or undervalue the work which has been done by the Publication Committee, or the good that has been accomplished in our beloved Zion, yet, when they look the facts, as they are, in the face, they do not hesitate to pronounce this undertaking, as the enterprise of a large, intelligent, wealthy, and active branch of the Christian Church, near the close of the nineteenth century, a signal failure. It is a small candle that we have lighted, and that, so far as a majority of our church members is concerned, has been "covered with a bushel."

The resolution before the last Assembly was the following: "That this Assembly take up and consider the whole subject of the Publication cause, and settle clearly and definitely its course of action for the future, and give to the churches the reasons for that course."

After an extended discussion of this resolution, the whole matter involved was referred to your Committee. It is their province now so to present this subject to your consideration, that you may be the better prepared to settle the future policy of our Church in relation to it; and, when this is done, it is hoped "the reasons" of your decisions will be laid before the churches with a clearness, and a fulness, and an importunity, that shall create a new power among us. Your Committee can lay claim to no special light on this subject, but our report may serve as a lense to concentrate the [264] rays we have, that you may examine, with a clearer vision, the great interests on which you are to decide.

The first question to be settled is, Shall the Publication cause continue to be an element in our church policy? Though it has had an existence, as we have seen, since 1852, yet that existence has been a shadowy one, vacillating between life and death. Its power has not reached and pervaded the churches. We have hundreds and thousands of members, who, if they were asked what they think of the Publication cause might answer: "We have not so much as heard whether there be any" Publication cause. It is true, things now begin to wear a brighter aspect. The day has dawned, and we trust the noontide is before us. "The Doctrinal Tract Committee," whose province it was to superintend the publication of a series of tracts, explanatory of the doctrines, government, and missionary policy of the Presbyterian Church, "received but a feeble response from any quarter. It was "a day of small things." But good was done by those early efforts. Many of "the calumnies," which had been uttered against us, were answered, and "our true position in the Church and in the world" was "clearly and distinctly exhibited." The action of the Assembly of 1854 was a new step in progress. The basis was somewhat changed, and the field of operation enlarged; and we have a distinct recognition of "the desirableness of a religious literature suitable to the wants of our denomination." But in the action of 1855, when the title of the Committee was changed to that of "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," we have a kind of pledge of permanence and efficiency.

Other changes have taken place in this department of labor, especially in 1857—all of them indicating progress. We stand pledged to this work, and cannot give it up without incurring the reproach—"This man began to build, but was not able to finish." Such a retrograde step would damage the piety and power of our Church. Other denominations are prosecuting it with great success; and, if we were to change our policy, and retrace the few steps we have taken, we should of necessity fall in the rear of the great Christian army, which is marching on, under its various denominational banners, to the conquest of the world. Indeed, the question raised in the Assembly of 1862, and which was the occasion of the appointment of your Committee, did not contemplate the abandonment of the enterprise, but presented the basis of its prosecution, as the matter to be settled. Should we return to the original one of 1852; or carry out literally, or, perhaps, with some new modifications, the progressive action of later Assemblies? Should that basis be narrow or broad—sectarian or catholic—controversial, or more practical and general? And, having assigned reasons, which, to your Committee, seem paramount, that the Publication cause must not be abandoned—that we have "put our hand to the plough, and cannot look back," they are prepared to call the attention of the Assembly to this additional point.

What shall we publish? As we have already seen, we began [265] this work for a definite purpose, and confined our operations to a very small circle; and very few, beyond our own limits, took an interest in our issues. A reason for this course then existed. It was a struggle for life. We must write and publish in self-defense, or "be trodden under foot of men." Brethren, whose theological training and modes of thought were different from ours, became alienated, and held us up before the public as heretics of no common type; and we must either vindicate ourselves by our own publications, or leave the Christian world to infer that the charges were correct. Your Committee speak only of facts, and not of the animus of those connected with them. But that day has gone by, the relation of things has changed, and we must change our policy and action. Having commenced the work of Publication for a specific purpose—and that a good one, and having continued it for that same purpose, and other superadded ones, and being now in a position from which we cannot recede, we should look at the length and breadth and character of the work we are to prosecute. The demand for mere "doctrinal tracts," or tracts for refuting "calumnies against us," or any other publications which are restricted to our Church, and inspire no interest and do little or no good anywhere else, has ceased. It is a fact of the past—we thank God, of a day gone by.

Your Committee fully accord with the recommendations of the Assembly of 1857. After speaking of "the power of the press" in its relations to "true piety," it was *Resolved*, "That the Publication Committee be encouraged to publish, not only such works as may present the peculiarities of our branch of the Christian Church, in doctrine and practice, but, from time to time, such works of an evangelical character, as may be profitable to the Church at large." On this basis the Publication Committee have acted ever since that period. And this is as it should be. Reformations do not, and should not, travel backwards. This is the beautiful order established by God. It was last year only that the thought was suggested, that it might be well to reverse this order. We admire the processes of nature, whether viewed by the æsthetic or utilitarian eye—the seed—the blade—then the ear—after that the full corn in the ear; and there is shouting among the reapers when the harvest is come, and the golden sheaves are gathered in, and the garners are full. This is nature's law—God's law of progress; and it is unseemly to reverse it. Your Committee recommend, that we continue to give further illustrations of this law in the Publication enterprise. Onward should be our motto.

It has occurred to your Committee, that there is no necessary antagonism between what is deemed or called denominational publications, and works of an evangelical and practical character, which go to make up a true Catholic and Christian literature. They speak of our churches alone. There is little sectarianism among them. They have so little home attachment, that they seem to love their neighbor better than themselves. A few con[266]troversial and doctrinal tracts, the publication of which had become an ecclesiastical necessity from the acts of others, which we would have controlled, but could not, are exceptions to the above remark. Several such tracts have been issued in times past, and others may be demanded in the future; but, aside from these, works, which present our type of orthodoxy—which embody our principles of exegesis—which set forth our form of Calvinism, and our philosophy of its exposition and defence—our theory of God's moral government, embracing Adam and his first sin, and our connections with them both—the atonement for a fallen race—broad in its provisions and infinite in its merits, laying the foundation for the offer of a free and full salvation, and leaving the sinner without excuse, if he shall reject "the Lord that bought him" and finally perish—the nature of sin and regeneration—the divine purposes in connection with the freedom of man as a responsible moral agent, as explained in our school in theology, and kindred doctrines—are the very materials we need to form an evangelical and Christian literature. Such reading is needed for ourselves, and needed for others. If we had more of it, we should have less Arminianism and more of Calvinism, in all the evangelical churches. Inquiring minds would become settled, and skeptics would be silenced. They supply an experienced want among ourselves, and they are equally needed by the community at large. And they are adapted to convert sinners in other congregations as well as in our own. Such productions we recommend to our Publication Committee. By multiplying such, by the agency of the press, and sending them forth, broadcast, upon the world, they will furnish a course of religious reading, adapted to the promotion of knowledge and growth in grace, in our own Zion; and they are broad and unsectarian enough to answer the demands of the reading Christian public in general.

The Sabbath-school books, already issued, have been received with much favor; and other volumes, of like character, should be added to the list: and if, at any time, tracts or books, more restricted in their scope, and more denominational in their materials, should seem to be called for, they should be added at the discretion of the Committee.

In the judgment of your Committee, the organization of the Publication Committee is well enough as it is, though it may be a question deserving thought; whether a reduction of its numbers from fifteen to eleven might not add to its efficiency and dispatch in business. The institution is in the right place, and the labor and munificence, which it has called forth from the Philadelphia brethren, richly entitle them to the blessed Christian privilege of still further gracious acts in the same direction. And your Committee cherish the hope, that the time is not far distant, when these labors of love will be imitated by that other great city, which proudly boasts of being the emporium of the Empire State.

Though your Committee have already drawn, perhaps, too long [267] upon your time and patience, yet there is one essential point more, which must not be omitted—it is the question of "ways and means." In all great movements in the State, and so also in the Church, this is the question which taxes the brain of the government—that is, the existing administration—and the purse of the people. The great error of the Church, heretofore, has been, that she has expected the full "tale of bricks," without furnishing "the straw" necessary for completing the work. Means are needed, adapted to the end proposed; and an American can no more make books without money, than an Egyptian could make bricks without straw. Where, then, shall this material instrument be found? We must have this, or all the speculations your Committee has indulged in will fall to the ground, or be dissolved into air. The collections of last year, amounting to some four thousand dollars, to adopt no severe language, were no honor to the Church. A few such annual efforts of "masterly inactivity" would ruin any specific plan, ever adopted for the reformation of the world. What, then, shall be done to inspire new life, and insure united, energetic, and triumphant action in the Publication cause?

Your Committee are of the opinion, that annual collections for this object should continue to be pressed upon all our churches, until this denominational enterprise can stand upon its own feet, and do its own work, without this kind of extraneous aid. And this time will be hastened, or retarded, according to the liberality or scantiness of these contributions. Let the waters flow freely into this fountain from all the churches; from the wealthy, in generous streams, and from the depressed poor, in little sparkling rills; and that fountain shall soon be full, and, in its turn, it shall again send out the liquid treasures to irrigate and fertilize the garden of God, until it shall blossom and bear fruit abundantly. Only let the churches enter into this cause with deep sympathy with its designs, and a large fund is secured by little effort.

Your Committee mention another source of income to this cause, which might furnish an increased working capital, without costing the churches anything. It requires only genuine loyalty to our own denomination. In all our history as Presbyterians, the General Assembly have always claimed the exclusive right, of saying what books of psalmody might and might not be used in our churches. Watts's, and Barlow's and Dwight's editions of Watts, were sanctioned by the same body, In 1820, the Assembly, before the division of the Church, undertook to prepare a book of psalms and hymns, which, in time, should supplant all others, and "become a bond of union among our churches." This was deemed a great interest to secure. No church can exist and prosper without many such bonds; and that, whose tissue is formed by interweaving poetry and music, is at once the sweetest and the strongest. In England, almost every prominent minister among the Dissenters has made a book of psalms or hymns for his own congregation. They approach the independent way of doing things for which Paul reproved the Corinthians: "When ye come [268] together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine." We might almost suspect, that both of these belonged to the same sect or denomination; while Paul, who rebuked this disregard of church order, was, no doubt, a sound Presbyterian.

Another thing was enjoined upon the Committee who made the first book, which should constitute a bond of union in the Presbyterian Church: the psalms and hyms must be separately arranged. Your Committee think this is a sound injunction. Taste, and piety, and reverence for the Scriptures require it. It appears almost profane to place David, who wrote psalms under the inspiration of God, on a common level with modern composers of spiritual songs, who wrote merely under the inspiration of human genius. This injunction of 1826 has been reiterated by our Assemblies at various sessions since.

And your Committee would add, that all our Assemblies, since we have been a distinct body, have recommended the use of one and the same book "as a bond of union." And yet, what are the facts in the case? We have in use in our churches more than one dozen different books to-day. Your Committee could give the names of more than this—say fifteen or sixteen. They leave this matter just here. "They speak as unto wise men, judge ye what they say." If this Assembly could bring about an entire uniformity in the adoption and use of our own book, and our only book, as Presbyterians, they would accomplish one of their best acts as a deliberative body, secure a strong bond of union among us, and help to fill the empty treasury of our Publication Committee. The experiment is worth a trial.

One thing more, by way of sustaining the grand agency of Publication in our Church. Your Committee would recommend the raising of a fund of $40,000 during the current year, for the cause of Publication, to be disposed of by the Committee, mostly for printing and circulating books, and a part, if they think best, for extinguishing the debt on the Presbyterian House. The mode of raising this fund is submitted wholly to the superior wisdom of the Assembly. Put this amount in the hands of the Publication Committee, and you give them a place to stand upon; and, under God and by grace, they will move the Church first and then the world; and skeptics and timid believers shall say, with a faith and confidence equal to that experienced by the old astronomer, when he arose from his knees, upon which he had been bowed down by an arbitrary power, which would crush out thought from the mind of man—"they move." Not in a whisper, as he did, but in a voice distinct and loud as thunder; and angels shall tune their sweetest harps, and a choir of saints and angels shall sing the "new song" in heaven.

Your Committee are well aware that this report covers a large field, and does not present any points for definite action; hence, they append the following resolutions: *Resolved*,

1. That the Publication cause should now be considered one of the established institutions of our Church. [269]

2. That true loyalty to our own home interests and policy demands, of all our ministers and all our church members, devoted attachment to this cause, and its cordial support.

3. That, as far as we and our churches are concerned, we will endeavor to see that collections be made annually in our congregations, and will use our influence, in every legitimate way. to induce our brethren, everywhere, to do the same, that our fund, from this source, may be greatly increased.

4. That, inasmuch as the "Church Psalmist" is our own denominational book for conducting one of the sweetest and sublimest acts of devotion, and as the ownership of this work was purchased, by the order of a former Assembly, for the large sum of ten thousand dollars, of the original publishers, subject to a small tax or tariff, by way of "copyright," to the compiler, for ten years only, loyalty to our Church demands that it should become, as speedily as practicable, the only book of psalmody used by our denomination; and that, in all cases of change in this branch of worship, we recommend "the Church Psalmist" as a substitute for any discarded book; and this, for two reasons: That it may serve as a strong bond of union among us; and, also, give the Publication Committee no inconsiderable income for the promotion of those interests intrusted to their hands.

5. That this General Assembly, following the example of former Assemblies, totally disapprove of those books of psalmody which, in their arrangement, blot out the distinction between those songs of devotion which are God-inspired and those which are man-inspired.

6. That we enter at once upon energetic measures for raising the sum of fifty thousand dollars, to be apportioned according to some judicious plan among our churches, and that this fund be employed by the Publication Committee, as may seem to them best, for the furtherance of the great interests they are prosecuting under God and the General Assembly.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions reported, recommending Rev. George C. Curtis, of the Presbytery of Chemung, as principal; and Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D., of the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, as alternate. Their report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits, in the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection reported. It was accepted, and its consideration was made the first order of the day for Monday morning.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Foreign Bodies made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to meet at Newark, N. J.*—Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, and Hon. Joseph Allison, of the Presbytery of Phila[270]delphia, Third, principals; and Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, and Mr. William E. Dodge, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternates.

2. *To the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Augustus T. Norton, of the Presbytery of Alton, principal; and Rev. William D. Sanders, of the Presbytery of Illinois, alternate.

3. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Halsey Dunning, of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, principal; and Rev. Herrick Johnson, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, alternate.

4. *To the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. D. Hopkins Emerson, of the Presbytery of Wilmington, principal; and Rev. Frederick F. Judd, of the Presbytery of Rockaway, alternate.

5. *To the General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Albert Barnes, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, principal; and Rev. William H. Williams, of the Presbytery of Keokuk, alternate.

6. *To the General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. George E. Pierce, D.D., of the Presbytery of Portage, principal; and Rev. Henry B. Eldred, of the Presbytery of Trumbull, alternate.

7. *To the General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., of the Presbytery of Utica, principal; and Rev. Lewis H. Reid, of the Presbytery of Onondaga, alternate.

8. *To the General Conference of Maine*—Rev. Jotham Sewall, of the Presbytery of Troy, principal; and Rev. John Waugh, of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, alternate.

9. *To the General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Lyman Gilbert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Catskill, principal; and Rev. Jonathan Copeland, of the Presbytery of Champlain, alternate.

10. *To the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*— Rev. John Sailor, of the Presbytery of St. Joseph, principal; and Rev. Benjamin G. Riley, of the Presbytery of Columbus, alternate.

The Committees on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey, and of West Pennsylvania, reported, recommending that they be severally approved as far as written. The reports were adopted.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the first order [271] of the day, namely, the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection. After amendment, it was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, would report, that the important duties of administering and guarding this Fund, appear to have been discharged, during the last year, with the same prudent, prompt, and business-like fidelity, and with the same strict adherence to the plan of the Assembly, which have characterized the action of the Board from the time it was first intrusted with the management of this Fund.

A large portion of the original Fund, and the whole of its accumulations, amounting together to about fifty-eight thousand dollars, remain unemployed in the hands of the Board, and, it is believed, are securely invested.

Three requests have been presented to the Committee. One, that the surplus of the Fund over one hundred thousand dollars be appropriated in large sums, where there is urgent necessity, by way of loans and donations. Another, that a loan of four hundred and sixty-six dollars be changed into a donation of the same amount. And the third, that interest, due the Board on a loan, be remitted. As the granting of these requests involves in each case a change in the admirable plan of the Assembly, the Committee unanimously recommend that they be denied.

It has come to the knowledge of your Committee, that six churches, (two in Kansas, three in Illinois, and one in Michigan,) which obtained loans from the Fund through the Synodical Committees of those States, have never completed the buildings, on which mortgages have been given to secure these loans. Your Committee, therefore, would recommend that the Synodical Committees be instructed and earnestly enjoined to see to it, that the requirements of the plan of the Assembly be rigidly conformed to by every church that applies for and receives a loan or a donation from this Fund.

The term of office of the following Trustees expires this year, namely, Asa D. Smith, James W. McLane, and Wm. A. Booth. Your Committee recommend that they be re-elected.

It was also

Resolved, 1. That the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be authorized, in case any Synod shall be under the necessity of drawing upon the Fund for more than its present apportionment, to appropriate to such Synod so much of the unappropriated portion of the Fund, as they, in their judgment, may think proper.

2. That this Assembly commend, to the churches in connection with it, the pecuniary necessities of those of our churches in the West, whose peculiar and urgent need cannot be met, under its charter and rules, by the Church Erection Fund; and that the Synodical Committees be requested to designate such churches, by indorsing the written statements of their affairs which they may make. [272]

3. That a Committee of five be appointed, to inquire whether any changes in the Plan of the Church Erection Fund are desirable to add to its efficiency, and if so what; and to report to the next General Assembly.

4. That the thanks of the Assembly be unanimously returned to Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., the Treasurer of the Church Erection Fund, for the faithful and gratuitous discharge of the duties of his office.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. Charles M. Temple, of the Presbytery of Coldwater.
Rev. Ambrose Dunn, " " Erie.
Rev. Selden Haines, " " Troy.
Rev. George Foot, " " Wilmington.
Rev. Charles C. Carr, " " Chemung.
Rev. Charles D. Curtiss, " " Athens.
Rev. John M. Boal, " " Scioto.
Rev. George R. Carroll, " " Dubuque.
Rev. Edwin J. Stewart, " " Saginaw.
Rev. William S. Leavitt, " " Columbia.
Mr. Philander H. Roots, " " Indianapolis.
Hon. Spencer Kellogg, " " Utica.
Mr. Isaac R. Noyes, " " Newark.
Mr. David A. Smith, " " Illinois.
Mr. Walter S. Griffith, " " Brooklyn.
Mr. Daniel B. Westlake, " " Chemung.
Mr. William R. Martin, " " Washtenaw.
Mr. Calvin P. Pease, " " Galena.
Mr. William C. Harp, " " New York, Third.
Hon. Otis Allen, " " Albany.
Mr. Henry W. Avery, Jr., " " Belvidere.
Mr. Eli R. Miller, " " Kalamazoo.
Mr. Alvin Upson, " " Marshall.
Mr. Esek C. Bradford, " " Elyria.
Mr. George Kellogg, " " Erie.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee of the last Assembly on the establishment of independent missions in Mexico, Central America, and South America, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee of the last Assembly on the subject of Foreign Missions, especially in Mexico, and Central and South America, respectfully report:

That they have given, to the suggestions so ably presented in the report, that respectful and careful attention which the great importance of the subject, and the eminent source from which they come, entitle them; and, after such consideration, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions relative thereto: [273]

1. That, in the judgment of this Assembly, the system of Foreign Missions which we are now prosecuting, in connection with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and in which sixty-two of our ministers are directly engaged, demands the undivided energies of our churches; that the fields, now occupied by our brethren in heathen lands, are suffering greatly for want of more laborers to gather in the ripening harvest, and for more liberal contributions to send forth and sustain additional missionaries; and that our attention ought not to be diverted from the claims of this great work.

2. That, while there is no reason for any dissatisfaction with the American Board, but rather every reason to be grateful that we have a missionary agency so honorable and efficient, and so owned and blessed of God; and while all our missionary brethren regard the Board with unabated attachment, it would be unwise to contemplate any measures looking towards, or likely to promote, the severance of our relations with that Board; and that we cannot inaugurate any separate Foreign Missionary action, without imperiling those relations.

3. That this Assembly regard with deep interest the hopeful field especially alluded to in the report of the Special Committee, and strongly desire to see the missionary work, already begun there by the American and Foreign Christian Union, (whose appropriate and special mission it is to carry the Gospel to nominally Christian lands,) greatly increased and prospered; and that we feel assured, that we can do more to bless the people of those countries, through the agency of that Society, than by attempting to establish separate missionary action as a Church.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Rev. Septimus Tustin, D. D., the Delegate from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at Peoria, Ill., delivered a parting address.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Mr. William A. Booth, were duly elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Rev. Daniel March, Rev. William T. Eva, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., and Mr. John C. Farr, were duly elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House. [274]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 2, from the Presbytery of Lexington, as follows:

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Lexington, held at Savannah, in the

State of Missouri, on the ninth day of May, A. D. 1863, the following appears of record:

"*Whereas*, This Presbytery did heretofore by its resolution, withdraw from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and did unite with the United Synod of the South, and whereas the reasons, which then rendered that act proper and right, have now ceased to be of paramount importance; and inasmuch as the political revolutions now going on in our once happy country, render it proper, just and right, to return to the General Assembly, from which we withdrew; Therefore,

Resolved, that this Presbytery will ask admission into, and will hereafter co-operate with, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, from which we heretofore withdrew.

A true copy, attest. E. A. CARSON, *Clerk, pro tem.*
Savannah, Mo., May 15, A. D., 1863.

As the Presbytery of Lexington has never, by act of the Assembly, been dropped from the Roll, but has always been, and is now, regarded as a constituent part of the Presbyterian Church under our care, the Committee are unanimously of the opinion, that no action on this communication is called for, and recommend that none be taken.

The report was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overtures No. 3 and 4; the former being a memorial from the Rev. Messrs. George W. Warner and A. R. Day, of Colorado Territory; and the latter being a memorial from the Presbytery of Winona; praying the General Assembly to adopt such measures as, in their wisdom, they may deem proper, to secure the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church.

As this subject has been substantially before the Assembly, and been acted on by the adoption of the resolutions of the 22d inst., the Committee recommend that no further action be taken.

The Report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 5, from the Publication Committee, which is as follows:

The Presbyterian Publication Committee respectfully present to the General Assembly the following Overture:

Whereas, The General Assembly of 1854 authorized the acceptance of the property, Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, upon certain conditions, which have since been complied with; and the legal title to said property was accordingly, on the fourth day of February, 1859, vested, for the Assembly, in "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House," but no trust has ever been declared of the same: and [275]

Whereas, In view of all the circumstances attending the acquisition of said property, and the purposes for which it was designed, it is desirable, that the General Assembly should declare the trust upon which the said property is and shall be held: The Presbyterian Publication Committee overture the Assembly to adopt the following resolutions and declaration of trust:

Whereas, Among other trusts, the legal title of the property, Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, is held, for the Assembly, by the "Trustees of the Presbyterian House," but no trust has ever been declared of the same, and circumstances render it expedient and desirable, that the trusts, upon which said property is and shall be held, should be formally declared; and

Whereas, The Trustees of the Presbyterian House did, by resolution, adopted March 27th, 1863, express their desire that the Publication Committee should ask the Assembly for a formal declaration, that the property, Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, is and shall be held, by the Trustees, for the use and benefit of the Publication Committee; therefore:

Resolved, First, That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America do hereby declare, that the property, Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, is and shall be held, by the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to, for, and upon the following uses, intents and purposes; that is to say; In trust to permit and suffer the Presbyterian Publication Committee, subject to the said General Assembly and their successors, to let and demise, use, occupy, and enjoy, the said property, and every part thereof; to receive and take the rents and income thereof; they paying all the taxes and ground-rent thereon, and all proper and necessary repairs, and other expenses and charges thereon; and that the said Trustees shall have power, at the request of the said Publication Committee, to mortgage and improve the said property, or any part thereof:

Resolved, Second, That the Trustees of the Presbyterian House be, and they hereby are, directed, to execute, under their corporate seal, and deliver, to the said Publication Committee, such deed or deeds of declaration of trust, for the purposes aforesaid, with all such powers, authorities, limitations and provisions, as shall be settled and advised by a Committee of three legal gentlemen, to be appointed by the Assembly, to be requisite and necessary for the fully carrying into effect these resolutions.

JOHN W. DULLES,
Secretary of the Presb. Publication Committee.

Philadelphia, May 26th, 1863.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the Overture, and the appointment of Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Hon. Joseph Allison, as the *Committee of legal gentlemen*, referred to in the last resolution.

The report was adopted.

The Committee also reported Overture No. 6, from the Presbytery of Iowa City, on the subject of Manses. [276]

The Committee recommend that this Overture be referred to the Special Committee which is to report on this subject to the next Assembly.

The report was adopted.

They reported, also, Overture No. 7, from the Presbytery of Iowa City, on the subject of providing for the founding and endowing of literary institutions, under the patronage of the General Assembly.

The Committee recommend that the Overture be referred to the Permanent Committee on Education.

The report was adopted.

They reported, also, Overture No. 8, on the subject of Sabbath-schools, Sabbath services, and the relations of the sessions of the churches thereto.

The Committee recommend that the Overture be referred to a Special Committee, which shall report on the subject to the next Assembly.

The report was adopted, and the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Messrs. Edwin T. Huntington, and Matthew W. Baldwin, were appointed to serve as this *Committee*.

They reported, also, Overture No. 9, which is as follows:

For the purpose of economizing the time of the General Assembly, and insuring a full consideration of the various interests committed to the care of the Permanent Committees, the Assembly are hereby requested to adopt the following standing order:

The Permanent Committees on Foreign Missions, Education, Home Missions, and Publication, shall be called upon to report, on the second day of the sessions, immediately after the necessary business connected with the organization of the body is completed, in the order in which they are named; and the reports of the Standing Committees on these subjects shall be considered, in like order, on the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh days of the session, respectively. The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund shall report on the third day of the sessions; and the report of the Standing Committee on that subject shall be considered on the afternoon of the sixth day.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the Overture.

The report was adopted.

They reported, also, Overture No. 10, as follows:

Whereas, The Sabbath-school cause has received great impetus and extended usefulness from the inauguration and rapid extension of mission Sunday-schools throughout our borders; and

Whereas, Such mission Sunday-schools are bringing under their influence multitudes of the children of neglect and want; and

Whereas, It becomes of great importance to secure for such children, not only Sabbath-day instruction, but also provision for their temporal wants, as well as family and Christian privileges, and industrial and intellectual training during the week, and ultimately the procurement of suitable homes for them; and [277]

Whereas, Industrial schools and Children's Aid Societies secure these important ends; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Assembly view favorably the establishment and support of such institutions, especially in the cities within our bounds.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the Overture.

The report was adopted.

They reported, also, Overture No. 11, which is as follows

The General Assembly are requested to consider the propriety of discontinuing the stated annual sermons on the various schemes of benevolence connected with the Church, such as the annual sermons in behalf of Home Missions, and Publication.

The Committee recommend that these annual sermons be discontinued.

The report was adopted.

Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Mr. Oliver H. Lee, were appointed the Special *Committee on the Church Erection Fund.*

Rev. Theodore W. J. Wylie, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

It was recommended that the first week of January be observed as a week of prayer, with reference to the Conversion of the World; and that the last Thursday in February be devoted to the spiritual interests of students in our Colleges, and other Seminaries of learning.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Geneva, Susquehanna, Genesee, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Wabash, Peoria, Iowa, and Minnesota, were severally presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written, and the reports were adopted.

The Committee on the Synod of Onondaga reported, recommending that they be approved as far as written, with the following exception:

On page 186 we find the Synod administering censure to the Presbytery of Cayuga, for an act of discipline towards one of its churches, on the ground, that the reasons for such discipline were not given, according to the requirements of our Book of Discipline; yet, on the next page, we find said Synod, re-affirming the acts of a church censured by its Presbytery, and reversing the decision of the Presbytery, without giving the required reasons for such a singular proceeding.

The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee in the matter of the complaint of Mr. S. Edwards Todd presented the following report:

The Judicial Committee, to whom was referred the matter of [278] the complaint of S. Edwards Todd against the decisions of the Synod of Onondaga, hereby respectfully report:

That, in examining the papers and records in the matter so referred, your Committee find as follows:

1. That, although, in bringing the case before the General Assembly, there are some mistakes and omissions in the required forms of procedure, such has been the good faith and diligence of the complainant, and such would be the manifest and irretrievable injury he must experience, if his complaint be dismissed, that your Committee believe that, according to the spirit of our Book of Discipline, the complaint is properly before this body. That, in proof of the good faith and diligence of the complainant, it appears, that he was advised, by one of the oldest members of the Synod, to lodge his complaint in the hands of the Stated Clerk; that, according to the certifying of the Stated Clerk, the complaint was directed to him within the time prescribed by the Book of Discipline; and that the Stated Clerk of the Synod, when receiving the notice, believing it to be properly directed, neither informed the Moderator of it, nor advised Mr. Todd of any mistake in its direction; but informed other members of the Synod of the complaint, and finally put all the documents into the hands of the Commission to this Assembly, to place them in due form before it. Your Committee are also assured, that Mr. Todd wrote to the Stated Clerk, two or three days previous to the opening of the Assembly, earnestly requesting that the papers might not fail of coming before the Assembly; and, also, that he expressed the desire that, if his presence were necessary, he might be notified of it by telegram.

2. Your Committee beg leave to refer the Assembly to a brief notice of the action of the Presbytery, in the case of Mr. Todd, as found in the Records of that body. These Records show, that the case was introduced to the Presbytery in January, but its consideration was postponed to an adjourned meeting of that body, held during the same month; that, in the vote taken on the complaint, the Records testify, that there were eight votes to sustain, two to sustain in part, and four not to sustain; that, at that meeting, a protest, signed by Edwin Hall, John Tompkins, and S. Stringham, was offered, setting forth that the Record of the Presbytery, declaring that the complaint of S. E. Todd and others was sustained, is erroneous. The vote to sustain was carried only by counting the vote of the Moderator, which was contrary to the rules of our judicatories; that it was also resolved, at that meeting, that a Committee consisting of C. Hawley, J. Tompkins, H. Fowler, ministers, and S. Stringham, elder, be appointed, to draft a minute expressive of the decision of the Presbytery, in the complaint of S. E. Todd, and report to the next meeting of the Presbytery; that, at the adjourned meeting, this Committee reported, "That, inasmuch as notice had been given of a complaint to

the Synod against the proceedings of the Presbytery in [279] arriving at their decision in this case, and as the Committee differ in opinion among themselves, as to some important particulars, set forth in said complaint, they find it inexpedient to present any minute on the subject; that, at this meeting, C. Hawley was appointed to defend the action of the Presbytery, before the Synod; that, at an adjourned meeting, it was moved, that a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to prepare a minute expressive of the vote of the Presbytery on the Todd appeal case, in order that the parties may know the result of the case, and that the Moderator ruled, that the motion was out of order, and was sustained by the Presbytery."

3. Your Committee further find, that, by the return of the Synod, the case came before that court, "on the complaint of William Robinson and Esbon Lyon, against the action of the Presbytery of Cayuga, in regard to a complaint of S. E. Todd against the action of the First Congregational church of Genoa;" that the finding and decision of the Synod of Onondaga upon such complaint is in the words and figures following, namely:

"1st. The Presbytery of Cayuga erred in allowing their Moderator to vote in the case under consideration. Had he not voted, there would have been no tie, whereby the Moderator could have voted; for there would have been seven not to sustain, and six to sustain; and the vote should have been so declared; there was just ground of complaint.

"2d. The Presbytery erred, also, in coming to a judicial decision, (if they reached one,) without recording any reasons for such decision, which is unconstitutional. (See Book of Discipline, Chap. IV., sec. 23.)

"3d. The Synod, without pausing to interpret fully what the decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga was, do hereby censure the Presbytery of Cayuga, for deciding a judicial case without giving the reasons for such decision; and they do hereby affirm the decision of the first Congregational church of Genoa in the case of Mr. S. Edwards Todd, who is suspended by said church. And we hereby reverse any decision made by the Presbytery of Cayuga which conflicts with the decision of the Synod, or the decisions of the First Congregational church of Genoa, in their suspension of S. E. Todd."

4. And your Committee further find, as a fact, presuming no opinion thereon, that the Synod of Onondaga, after thus severely censuring the Presbytery of Cayuga for having violated the Constitution, in recording a judgment without assigning reasons therefor, have themselves, in the next sentence, recorded a judgment, reversing one decision and affirming another, without assigning any reason whatever.

5. And your Committee further find, as a fact in the case, that the Synod of Onondaga, after having "reversed" an unconstitutional decision, instead of remitting the matter to the Presbytery below for a new trial, as the Book requires, (see Chap. VII., sec. 2, i.–vii.,) have judicially ignored the Presbytery of Cayuga, in [280] order to give vitality to the primary action of the Congregational church of Genoa, and thus insuring the condemnation of the complainant during all the delays which attend proceedings of this character.

The Records of the Presbytery not being before us, the proceedings of that body only appear in the several complaints.

And your Committee further report,

That the history of the case appears in the papers hereto annexed as a part of this report, and in the Records of the Synod of Onondaga, pages 163–187 inclusive.

The papers embrace—

1. The original charges against S. E. Todd.

2. The testimony on the trial before the church, and the action of the church.

3. The complaint of the said Todd to the Presbytery.

4. The complaint of Messrs. Robinson and Lyon to the Synod of Onondaga.

5. The complaint of said Todd to this General Assembly.

In view of the irregularities, which have attended the prosecution of this case both in the Presbytery and the Synod, and in order that justice may be secured to all parties, your Committee recommend, that this case be remanded to the Synod of Onondaga, with instructions to remand the same to the Presbytery of Cayuga for definite and full action thereon.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That this Assembly cordially approve of the spirit and aims of the United States Christian Commission, an organization designed to furnish, to the officers and men of our army and navy, the best possible Christian ministries for body and soul in their circumstances; and that we cheerfully and heartily commend this work as most important and timely, not only in its influences upon the brave men in the field, but, through them, upon the cause which they advocate and the country which they defend.

Resolved, That this Assembly recommend to our churches, in securing contributions, for the purpose of supplying the army with religious reading, to forward the same to our Publication Committee, with the request, that the money be invested in publications adapted to the wants of the soldiers in the field and hospital, the same to be forwarded through the agency of the commission.

The Committee on the subject of raising a fund to be applied to the aid of disabled ministers and their families, appointed by the last Assembly, were discharged. The Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, the Rev. George F. Wiswell, the Hon. Joseph Allison, Mr. Ambrose White, and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., were appointed to the same service.

The Committees on "Special Cases of Infant Baptism," "The Church Erection Fund," and "The Relations of the General Assembly to Sunday-schools and to the Religious Education of the [281] Children," appointed by the last Assembly, failing to present any report, were severally discharged.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without excuse:

Messrs. Josiah W. Fairfield, Erastus S. Kelsey, Daniel Bennett, William S. Atchinson, Abijah B. Palmer, George W. Lane, John B. Porter, David Thomas, George W. Hoffman, and Finlay Strong.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and united with the First Presbyterian Church for one hour, in observing the monthly concert of prayer for the Conversion of the World. After which it was

Resolved, That the Assembly hereby express their high admiration of the manner, in which the ladies of Philadelphia have contributed, and are contributing, to the comfort of the soldiers who pass through this city, and of those who return sick and suffering to its hospitals; and that, as citizens of the country, and in behalf of those whom we specially represent, we present to these ladies our hearty thanks.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the respective railroad companies, who have generously consented to a reduction of their regular fare, in favor of the Commissioners and others who have been in attendance on our sessions; and especially to the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company, for the gratuitous excursion to Atlantic City and back, on the 30th ultimo.

Also, to the citizens of Philadelphia and its vicinity, whose hospitality has been so munificently extended to the members of the Assembly, and rendered their sojourn so pleasant and gratefully memorable, with the assurance of our fervent prayers, that they and theirs may be abundantly recompensed by the Giver of all good.

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and assiduity in providing for the convenience and comfort of their numerous visitors on this occasion.

Also, to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church, for the use of their commodious house of worship and its ample accommodations. [282]

Also, to the choir of the First Presbyterian church, for their appropriate and excellent services during the sessions of the Assembly.

Also, to the editor of the *American Presbyterian*, for the assiduity and care with which, in a "daily" edition of his valuable paper, he has furnished us with so full and accurate a report of the proceedings of the Assembly.

Also, to the Moderator, the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly, and for the discriminating and Christian courtesy which he has extended to the Commissioners.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Third street Presbyterian church, of the city of Dayton, Ohio, on the Third Thursday of May, A. D., 1864, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING. *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, *Pa.*, *June* 1*st*, 1863.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, JUNE, 1863.

ABOUT eighty Presbyterial Narratives, representing nearly all the Synods, have come into the hands of the Assembly's Committee. A careful perusal and comparison of them bring to view several facts of great importance, which are descriptive of the condition of morals and religion around and within our churches.

INTEMPERANCE.

The first is of a gloomy and sorrowful character, and so far as it extends is without compensation or relief. The darkest clouds, which God's judgment bring over the land, are full of blessing as well as sorrow, for they pour down fertilizing floods even while the lightnings from them blast and rive. But the blackness to which we now refer is the smoke of the pit, diffusing, wherever it is spread, curses without blessing, death without life. And it is now spreading (as we mourn to learn) everywhere over our land, to the very thresholds of our churches, and into the sanctuaries of our homes.

Need we say, that it is the curse of intemperance, which, all these Narratives declare, after having been often driven back, and sometimes, we had hoped, well-nigh destroyed, is now making head again through our borders, East and West, North and South? Each Presbytery, without concert with any other, pours forth its lamentation, proclaims its warning, and sounds aloud its call for a renewed onset of the sacramental host, against this accursed enemy of God and man. And now it is for us as a General Assembly, in this our message to the churches, to unite the lamentations, warnings, and calls of a hundred Presbyteries into a trumpet blast, summoning the whole Church to war against a foe, often defeated, often prostrated, but which will only by annihilating die.

REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

The second fact, descriptive of the state of religion among us, is in bright and joyous contrast with the first, as the morning of the prophet promised in close proximity with the night, and as the light of the Gospel springing up side by side with the shadow of death.

A large part of these Narratives tell us, either that the past year has been one of revivals among them, or that even now there are revivals enjoyed by the churches of which they speak.

In several instances, pastors were prevented from attending the recent meetings of Presbytery, because engaged in the delightful work; and, in one case, even after the Narrative had been prepared, it was necessary to add a postscript, announcing the sudden and simultaneous effusion of God's Spirit upon the churches around, and in a signal manner upon an honored and cherished seminary of learning, the glad tidings from which have already been proclaimed on this floor.

This general statement, your Committee feel, is not sufficient even to call attention to a state of things which no language could adequately describe. We would, therefore, as the best means of bringing to view the wide diffusion of the blessing, recite the names of the Presbyteries, whose Narratives announce some degree of special reviving influence, enjoyed by some of their churches during the year. The statements made differ widely, as to the measure of revival which they relate, and as to the number of churches to which they refer. Some of them speak only of a gentle refreshing, others of a powerful work of grace; some of only a single church visited, others of nearly all the churches in their bounds. The less and the greater, the few and the many, must here, of necessity, be grouped together. From some Presbyteries no Narrative has been received; some speak less definitely than others. Our statements can, therefore, be only an approximation towards a full and accurate account. Yet, imperfect as it is, we give it, not to the praise of men, but to the glory of God. The names of these Presbyteries are as follows, namely: Catskill, Watertown, Utica,

Wellsborough, Lyons, Cayuga, Onondaga, Chenango, Otsego, Oswego, Buffalo, Ontario, Rochester, Niagara, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, District of Columbia, Erie, Meadville, Monroe, Washtenaw, Marshall, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Lake Superior,* Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Pataskala, Franklin, Cincinnati, Dayton, Madison, Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Alton, Illinois, Galena, Belvidere, Columbus, Iowa City, St. Louis, Kansas, San José.

Besides these more special and marked revival influences, in many, and indeed nearly all the Presbyteries, the churches are reported to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. The attendance on the means of grace is good; meetings for prayer are sustained in many places with increasing interest; harmony prevails; the amounts contributed to benevolent operations have been enlarged; a growing zeal is manifested in advancing the plans of our own branch of the Church for promoting the kingdom of Christ; many new houses of worship have been erected; and many burdensome church debts have been paid.

All these things are the results of God's grace bestowed upon his people. They should be recorded with gratitude to him, and for the encouragement and joy of the whole Church.

SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

We are now prepared to mention another delightful feature in the state of religion among our churches.

With scarcely an exception, the Presbyterial Narratives report, that the Sabbath-schools are enjoying an unprecedented measure of prosperity and efficiency.

The churches, that have experienced a revival, speak of the Sabbath-school as the sphere of its greatest power; while those, that have had no revival, point to them as the centre of their brightest hopes.

"Far out upon the prairie," in small villages, and in large cities, neglected children, gathered into the mission schools, are instructed in the truths of the Gospel. In well-established churches, Sabbath-schools are described as brightest among the bright.

The Committee wish they could transfer, to the Assembly and to the Church, the impression made upon their minds, by the reading of the Narratives one after another, as without concert with each other, and in widely separated localities, they speak in joyous and almost identical terms concerning their schools.

A few specimens they cannot withhold.

"One church reports a revival of religion springing up in the Sabbath-school." "Sabbath-schools are flourishing more than usual, and are more cared for than ever by ministers and churches." "In one church, three-fourths of all belonging to the Sabbath-school are rejoicing in hope." "Sabbath-schools are made prominent among the agencies for the salvation of men. In some schools adult classes are formed, in which fathers, mothers, and officers of the church meet at the same time with the children, and study the same lesson." "The subjects of the revival have been chiefly those connected with the Sabbath-schools, either as teachers or scholars." "The most interesting feature in the condition of strength, which we are permitted to report, is found in the high degree of lively interest among the Sabbath-schools and youth generally. Numerous additions to the churches are made from them." "There is increased prosperity in the Sabbath-schools. Without any concert of action, this important department of effort has been prosecuted with unusual vigor and success." "The marked feature in our report is the increased interest in our Sabbath-schools, sustained at our churches and in remote localities." "In the Sabbath-schools the greatest interest has been felt, and they are considered as the greatest hope of the church." "Our Sabbath-schools are flourishing, and are the most hopeful department of our church." "In each report, the Sabbath-schools are represented as the brightest, most hopeful feature." "The Sabbath-schools are increasing in numbers, interest, and usefulness. As a Presbytery, much attention is given to this department of Christian effort, and with the most cheering and evident results. The activity of our churches in mission-school enterprises is most encouraging. Hundreds of neglected children are thus reached and instructed."

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* The blessing of God upon this Presbytery has been manifested in enabling his servants to be faithful and persevering amidst unusual discouragements.

Many similar statements might be quoted; but these are sufficient to show that, throughout our Church, the blessing of God is descending, more abundantly than ever before, upon the efforts of his people to instruct the children and bring them to Jesus.

In the light which they afford, we may see, most clearly, the indispensable necessity for giving the fullest and most careful consideration to the Overtures, which are coming up to the Assembly from various quarters, urging us to assign to the Sabbath-school a more clearly defined position in our organized plans, and to consecrate to it more of the care, time and power of the pastor, the elders, and the membership of the church.

LOYALTY.

A fourth characteristic feature of our Narrative remains to be mentioned.

The state of religion, which we have attempted to describe, is that which has been witnessed in a year of civil war, amidst its fearful strifes, its most intense struggles, its most dark and critical hours.

Out of the depths of such a year, these Narratives bring to us, from pastors and people, the irrepressible declaration of loyalty, uncompromising and unconditional, to the lawfully elected and appointed administration of our Government; and of the consecration of their intellect and their religion, of their fortunes and their lives, to the destruction of the wicked rebellion, which has hurled its power against all that we prize for ourselves, and all that we hold in trust for other lands.

But on this your Committee need not dwell. All, that we would have been glad to report concerning it, has been anticipated and surpassed, by the unanimous, heartfelt, and determined action of the Assembly, which, during the last few days, has stimulated and rejoiced us all.

The remark which we would now make is, that these Narratives of the Presbyteries answer for us the inquiry, which has been on so many lips, and has given anxiety to so many hearts, concerning the permanent influence upon religion of this mournful, yet on our part necessary and righteous, war.

The answer to this inquiry is decided and cheering in its tones.

The Presbyteries and the churches tell us, indeed, of thoughts engrossed, of hearts distressed, of wealth poured out, of energies given up to the prosecution of the war. They mourn over the moral evils, produced and aggravated by such a state of things; over churches weakened, lives sacrificed, families bereaved, sufferings endured, and desolations witnessed. Yet they tell us, also, of brighter things. They manifest their joy as well as sorrow. Especially do they show us, that, while the first effects of the war were in some respects unfavorable to religion, much of its continued influence has, by the blessing of God, reached and affected mightily, for good, the deepest fountains of the soul.

For, from the camp, and battle-field, and hospital, tidings reach us of the attention of many gained to the truths of the Gospel, of backsliders restored, of the impenitent converted, of piety developed, of usefulness increased.

The religious life of our church members has been diverted from some of its old channels, but has poured into new ones with augmented streams; and soon the old have been filled again, and now overflow their former banks. It is from the Christian women, who have bountifully and constantly supplied camps and hospitals, that home missionaries, also, have received even more than the usual tokens of sympathy and love. It is from our entire Church, whose wealth had been devoted spontaneously and abundantly to the support of our Government, and the efficiency of our armies, that the reports come of sanctuaries erected, of debts paid, of benevolent operations sustained with enlarged liberality and zeal.

It is from Sabbath-schools, which had first been weakened by the voluntary enlistment of superintendents, teachers, and scholars, that the joyous tidings are proclaimed of unprecedented prosperity, usefulness, and power.

It is in thousands of homes, bereaved and darkened, that grateful acknowledgments are heard, of consolation enjoyed, of spiritual profit obtained, of piety deepened, of trust in God made strong.

It is in churches at first startled, paralyzed, and imperilled by the shock of war, that the influence of the Spirit has been poured out, the guilt of rebellion against God brought home to the conscience, and the power of Christ displayed.

While these remarks apply to our Church at large, in those portions of it most exposed to the evil influences of the war, the goodness of God has been especially conspicuous. To illustrate this we would bring our Narrative to a close with brief extracts from the reports of three Presbyteries, that have been compelled, by their geographical position, to encounter the greatest perils and difficulties springing from the rebellion, and from Slavery, its producing cause.

The Presbytery of Wilmington say: "Occupying, at this crisis, the most undesirable portion of the country not actually covered by military operations, it was matter of serious doubt, whether we would be able to preserve our churches and maintain our unity. But this Presbytery has not suffered diminution in any of its congregations, or in any of its material interests, by maintaining, among its ministers, a unanimous and uncompromising loyalty to our Government. And it is our conviction that, when our national troubles shall have passed away, and the distractions consequent upon them shall have subsided, our churches will be in a better condition to prosecute their appropriate work, than at any former period."

The Presbytery of the District of Columbia say: "We live in a whirl of commotion, in a focus where all the troubles of the country converge. Consequently the youth are led away from serious thought. The parades, the tramp of armies, and the news of battle, all tend to dissipate reflection, by keeping the mind intoxicated with excitement. Yet, on the other hand, meetings for prayer are well attended by persons of maturer years; showing that the commotions of the times lead them to God. All things considered, the condition of things is hopeful, and not in the least discouraging to us."

Especially in Kansas, has deep sorrow been turned to abounding joy.

With the sorrow we are all in some measure familiar. Let us listen for a moment to the declaration of the joy.

"This year of trial (the Presbytery says) has also been a year of revivals. Souls have been saved. Feeble churches have been strengthened. New churches have been brought into being, under revival influences. The number of our communicants is more than double that of last year. In the hours of our Presbyterial prayer meetings, and during the presentation of our reports respecting the state of our churches, as statement after statement came in from our scattered fields of labor, it seemed, indeed, that

> 'Heaven came down our souls to greet,
> And glory crowned the mercy-seat.'

The interest was thrilling. Particular cases of conviction carried us back to the days of Whitefield and Edwards. The grace of God, and the love of Christ, seemed stronger than ever, reaching even the most hardened."

The state of religion, which we have thus imperfectly sketched, interesting as it is in itself, is most of all significant, as a state of preparation for increased activity on the part of our ministry and churches, and for the gracious bestowment of Divine efficiency upon their efforts, more abundantly than we have ever yet witnessed. May we all be incited by the displays we do behold, both of the providence and grace of God, to greater fidelity, more earnest prayer, and more steadfast hope.

The following ministers are reported as having ceased from their work on earth :

Ashbel Parmelee, D. D.,	of the Presbytery of	Champlain.
William H. Corning,	"	Troy.
Timothy Woodbridge, D. D.,	"	Columbia.
R. Richard Kirk,	"	St. Lawrence.
Ralph Robinson,	"	Oswego.
James Blakeslee,	"	Pennsylvania.
Josiah Hopkins, D. D.,	"	Cayuga.
William Bacon,	"	"
John B. Hoyt,	"	Chenango.
William Fraser,	"	Delaware.
Edward Robinson, D. D., LL.D.,	"	New York, Third.
Benjamin J. Wallace, D. D.,	"	Philadelphia, Third.
Charles W. Gardner,	"	Harrisburgh.
Andrew G. Carothers,	"	Dist. of Columbia.
Amos C. Tuttle,	"	Kalamazoo.
Harvey Lyon,	"	Cleveland.
Erastus Cole,	"	Elyria.
Lyman Beecher, D. D.,	"	Cincinnati.
Hiram Gregg,	"	Dayton.
Warren Nichols,	"	"
E. Roger Johnson,	"	"
Hugh Barr,	"	Illinois.
John C. Campbell,	"	Wabash.
Albert Smith, D. D.,	"	Alton.
Harvey Curtis, D. D.,	"	Knox.
John J. Slocum,	"	Chicago.
John Dyke,	"	Kansas.

By order of the General Assembly.

HENRY B. SMITH, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	81	4	7	72	232	100	7,971	77	142	$275 86	$4,764 18	$2,968 05	$844 34	$3,637 34	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	21	...	1	23	55	39	2,072	17	32	79 98	687 15	847 67	21 99	523 47	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	26	4	2	18	45	19	2,250	17	27	70 16	1,168 20	804 60	30 00	1,610 15	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	16	...	2	12	48	23	1,721	16	31	42 58	1,414 89	515 60	487 77	198 11	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	4	...	1	6	5	9	751	2	5	26 79	125 00	326 00	41 40	90 75	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	14	...	1	13	79	10	1,171	25	47	56 35	1,368 94	474 18	263 18	1,214 86	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	84	9	10	71	184	160	6,817	81	117	176 90	4,510 23	3,995 59	858 89	1,742 10	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	10	...	...	7	13	18	663	...	12	31 80	312 02	470 56	....	230 04	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	20	1	...	21	48	40	2,063	19	51	91 00	426 89	766 76	222 69	535 34	Isaac Brayton, D. D.
3. Oswego	1823	...	8	...	...	15	79	20	1,560	47	12	....	399 70	1,192 79	177 36	253 62	John N. Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	46	8	10	28	44	82	2,531	15	42	54 10	3,371 62	1,565 48	458 84	723 10	Timothy Dwight Hunt.
III. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	108	4	4	91	287	198	8,994	125	134	428 16	2,722 69	2,580 40	3,718 83	2,002 75	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	35	2	...	18	60	47	2,518	22	49	131 55	818 70	962 91	2,812 40	851 38	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	12	...	...	19	80	25	1,518	45	16	44 56	235 50	206 38	122 91	102 51	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	25	...	...	17	36	51	1,425	12	37	71 25	535 50	430 00	196 00	428 50	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	10	...	1	8	56	30	1,244	29	9	64 50	600 90	458 71	126 00	227 82	David Torrey.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	10	...	...	14	11	12	558	2	2	30 00	63 60	42 09	83 42	5 00	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	16	2	3	15	44	33	1,701	15	21	86 30	468 49	480 28	378 10	387 54	Arunah H. Lilly.
IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	86	30	12	69	206	227	7,961	90	112	348 86	2,917 84	2,738 26	3,414 65	2,256 87	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	22	...	...	21	53	48	2,414	27	28	104 07	983 98	856 52	536 80	932 12	Horace P. Bogue.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	32	30	12	22	75	109	2,416	31	42	123 29	1,180 60	742 61	2,613 20	568 22	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	15	...	...	16	60	23	1,734	31	20	49 50	421 92	405 94	79 65	415 53	Ova H. Seymour.
4. Tioga	1829	...	17	...	...	10	18	47	1,397	1	22	72 00	331 34	733 19	185 00	341 00	Samuel H. Hall, D. D.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	38	...	5	42	257	77	3,656	113	71	128 32	888 73	1,072 18	315 85	462 80	William T. Doubleday.
1. Otsego....................	1820	...	13	...	...	16	20	9	1,384	8	24	53 41	283 34	412 47	132 00	181 50	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango..............	1826	...	13	...	2	14	187	35	1,408	87	32	33 26	336 44	465 48	107 55	272 30	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware................	1831	...	12	...	3	12	50	33	864	18	15	41 65	268 95	194 23	76 30	9 00	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE......	1821	6	133	6	9	99	471	320	12,378	200	180	529 17	5,575 23	4,564 77	4,854 29	4,469 51	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo....................	1817	...	38	...	8	27	168	103	3,467	56	70	193 00	2,004 05	2,206 48	2,727 40	1,250 21	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	16	1	...	12	62	53	1,502	31	17	76 80	718 07	469 77	287 44	495 94	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester................	1819	...	28	4	...	16	70	68	2,769	32	29	101 06	710 57	609 96	418 64	2,280 52	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	15	...	...	16	33	34	1,378	14	15	67 80	936 16	510 14	513 23	218 68	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara..................	1823	...	20	1	...	15	118	30	2,140	57	38	68 64	990 24	577 25	646 38	110 78	Lucius I. Root.
6. Genesee Valley........	1828	...	16	...	1	13	20	32	1,122	10	11	21 87	216 14	191 17	261 20	113 38	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J...	1788	9	273	54	48	162	981	1094	27,333	221	587	1,338 25	37,168 22	36,854 69	13,296 92	9,836 67	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson.	1797	...	16	...	1	13	107	38	1,644	44	27	77 95	382 39	617 01	469 86	516 50	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River..............	1819	...	24	...	1	20	28	48	1,845	9	26	106 00	680 42	604 35	320 31	565 65	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island............	1791	...	9	...	...	6	24	9	704	12	19	35 25	105 75	278 70	41 37	129 59	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third......	1831	...	58	24	23	22	293	224	6,311	44	118	313 00	12,817 22	7,696 15	3,550 00	3.090 06	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth....	1845	...	46	20	12	13	126	317	3,252	30	70	155 65	11,184 25	19,116 52	2.414 97	2,184 66	J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	20	3	5	9	73	232	2,691	24	67	128 70	3,983 45	2.160 77	3,823 78	1,051 13	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	47	4	4	26	231	148	6,079	17	158	290 60	6,723 54	4,723 41	1,560 27	1,282 24	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway...............	1839	...	22	1	1	20	32	36	2,267	14	37	83 10	542 00	852 00	447 00	820 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose..............	1832	...	31	2	1	33	67	42	2,510	27	65	148 00	749 20	805 75	669 36	196 84	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	101	11	35	84	348	365	13,409	94	403	653 55	40,222 72	8,306 90	5,947 90	4,799 84	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	13	2	3	15	27	25	1,431	5	36	71 55	1,276 24	504 05	267 41	352 45	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third..	1832	...	35	4	7	24	151	178	3,691	28	97	183 00	17,703 00	2,691 00	2,273 00	3,060 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth.	1845	...	31	3	20	27	116	86	5,825	46	186	312 00	18,746 48	3,391 85	2,677 49	830 96	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	12	1	4	9	30	24	1,077	13	40	87 00	1,817 00	1,329 00	660 00	434 43	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia..	1831	...	10	1	1	9	24	52	1,385	2	44	....	680 00	391 00	70 00	122 00	William McLain, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNA.	1843	3	26	2	1	33	109	59	3,006	47	81	147 00	2,321 11	1,545 47	2,203 06	1,259 64	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie.........................	1801	...	13	1	...	13	44	39	1,324	25	45	66 35	342 48	288 80	68 06	473 48	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville................	1842	...	8	1	1	15	37	7	947	14	21	37 15	71 98	37 40	80 00	99 66	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	...	...	5	28	13	735	8	15	43 50	1,906 65	1,219 27	2,055 00	686 50	Samuel M. Sparks.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	96	5	9	107	320	261	8,513	81	224	$432 69	$3,389 53	$2,485 57	$1,769 25	$1,819 87	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit....................	1826	...	17	...	2	15	47	51	1,299	10	36	62 00	1,394 48	657 56	700 70	186 78	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	...	...	15	41	33	1,195	6	48	58 70	537 47	378 82	96 74	679 99	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall................	1838	...	11	1	1	15	23	34	1,326	10	14	68 35	142 00	211 24	69 40	135 06	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw..............	1838	...	11	3	3	9	64	30	1,309	26	21	61 85	306 65	351 82	338 15	61 88	D. L. Wood, Esq., Ann Arbor.
5. Kalamazoo..............	1838	...	12	1	1	13	75	41	1,273	10	10	66 48	438 22	370 04	97 00	339 97	Milton Bradley.
6. Coldwater..............	1856	...	10	...	1	12	21	36	907	3	32	45 72	249 11	231 96	299 84	138 69	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw................	1856	...	10	...	1	15	27	15	733	14	18	48 04	253 00	211 23	118 02	196 00	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley..	1857	...	8	...	...	8	20	18	395	2	16	17 10	68 60	69 90	49 40	81 50	David M. Cooper.
9. Lake Superior.........	1857	...	3	...	...	5	2	3	76	...	29	4 45	....	....	....	....	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. SYNOD of W. RESERVE.	1825	7	99	5	20	84	198	178	6,425	77	156	297 66	3,191 28	3,486 38	3,310 83	2,008 47	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River...........	1814	...	7	...	...	5	39	7	432	27	15	26 75	51 67	93 50	....	....	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage................	1818	...	14	2	10	7	5	2	580	...	3	....	84 25	38 87	40 00	81 42	Samuel Lee.
3. Huron..................	1823	...	17	...	2	16	28	31	1,256	15	29	68 50	441 58	383 14	529 81	192 77	Alfred Newton, D. D.
4. Trumbull...............	1827	...	12	...	4	14	53	36	1,125	12	46	55 55	288 00	500 15	108 14	577 93	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	29	3	...	15	45	58	1,515	13	44	90 26	1,841 62	1,892 46	1,976 92	717 02	James Shaw.
6. Elyria.................	1842	...	12	...	1	14	6	10	738	3	7	18 60	319 71	378 01	45 15	213 86	Ansel R. Clark.
7. Maumee.................	1842	...	8	...	3	13	22	34	779	7	12	38 00	164 45	200 25	610 81	225 47	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.........	1814	4	56	6	...	69	193	93	4,736	73	158	190 10	1,693 47	1,625 69	1,429 02	1,312 37	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens.................	1822	...	12	3	...	17	32	12	852	11	31	39 20	145 63	58 55	126 00	103 50	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala..............	1809	...	23	1	...	24	97	27	1,737	35	52	45 90	740 99	742 97	980 53	643 70	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin...............	1835	...	16	2	...	17	59	47	1,344	27	43	65 00	425 25	516 05	220 05	199 65	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto.................	1845	...	5	...	...	11	5	7	803	...	32	40 00	381 60	308 12	102 44	365 52	Tapping S. Reeve.
XIII. S. OF CINCINNATI......	1829	4	57	15	7	52	107	112	3,598	30	158	264 40	3,990 42	1,861 11	1,082 95	798 20	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati.............	1828	...	25	14	4	15	54	60	1,409	17	89	130 20	2,370 77	969 02	608 12	340 95	George M. Maxwell.
2. Ripley.................	1838	...	14	...	1	17	22	11	808	1	36	47 00	476 00	....	27 00	178 00	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	...	8	...	...	12	17	18	913	7	24	53 20	702 00	309 75	363 57	113 80	S. Granby Spees, D. D.
4. Hamilton...............	1846	...	10	1	2	8	14	23	468	5	9	34 00	441 65	582 34	84 26	165 45	John Hussey.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA....	1826	4	42	3	7	61	80	73	3,461	31	123	187 57	1,461 40	1,735 36	1,569 72	557 75	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem....................	1823	...	11	...	...	15	14	12	910	3	26	53 35	575 25	471 05	342 07	320 70	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison..................	1825	...	9	3	5	14	16	18	896	8	38	48 42	316 35	440 98	655 10	100 00	Wm. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis............	1830	...	12	...	2	16	30	23	961	12	34	53 25	382 14	643 27	477 80	112 55	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle..........	1850	...	10	...	...	16	20	20	694	8	25	32 55	187 66	180 06	94 75	24 50	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH......	1851	4	38	...	...	54	102	63	2,613	39	77	128 90	557 45	678 64	709 55	559 13	Franeis S. MeCabe.
1. Crawfordsville.........	1825	...	11	...	...	12	7	11	540	4	7	29 00	233 40	32 65	66 50	91 98	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph..............	1833	...	11	...	...	12	12	7	676	2	14	39 75	56 50	460 09	402 50	274 15	Bethuel Farrand.
3. Logansport............	1835	...	8	...	...	18	42	31	960	14	51	36 30	161 55	163 40	193 55	178 00	Francis S. MeCabe.
4. Fort Wayne............	1845	...	8	...	...	12	41	14	437	19	5	23 85	106 00	22 50	47 00	15 00	William R. Palmer.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS....	1831	4	68	3	6	86	223	103	4,523	67	105	216 65	2,830 12	1,233 15	2,317 58	806 53	Edward B. Olmsted.
1. Illinois..................	1828	...	17	1	1	21	139	17	1,423	45	26	62 45	1,020 50	1,046 90	1,246 78	320 05	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler................	1833	...	17	...	5	21	4	8	1,121	...	9	56 00	479 00	....	246 50	127 50	George I. King.
3. Wabash..................	1833	...	8	1	...	9	17	25	351	8	13	19 00	40 15	14 10	2 00	70 58	Enoeh Kingsbury.
4. Alton....................	1836	...	26	1	...	35	63	53	1,628	14	57	79 20	1,290 47	172 15	822 30	288 40	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA...	1843	6	90	...	5	71	156	319	4,887	43	174	241 75	2,564 38	1,993 61	831 80	1,663 91	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa..................	1834	...	14	...	...	8	7	10	364	1	1	21 35	75 40	54 41	....	147 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox....................	1836	...	10	...	2	8	28	39	561	3	25	27 60	405 20	342 33	56 50	297 50	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena..................	1842	...	11	...	...	12	16	2	513	1	16	27 05	225 85	43 76	55 54	....	Alanson T. Wood.
4. Chicago.................	1847	...	31	...	3	20	56	202	2,076	14	98	96 95	1,439 23	1,155 66	316 00	839 68	Asahel L. Brooks.
5. Belvidere...............	1847	...	14	...	...	9	32	31	765	17	11	39 20	304 00	349 62	386 26	270 53	
6. Bloomington...........	1847	...	10	...	...	14	17	35	608	7	23	29 60	114 70	47 80	17 50	109 20	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. S. OF WISCONSIN....	1857	3	30	1	...	27	25	40	1,224	6	44	66 02	417 60	138 33	217 07	181 28	Sidney H. Barteau.
1. Milwaukee..............	1851	...	13	...	...	7	12	11	547	4	8	30 62	244 24	23 01	86 44	126 88	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River..............	1851	...	7	...	...	6	3	14	244	...	11	12 40	70 00	20 00	41 50	5 00	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus..............	1856	...	10	1	...	14	10	15	433	2	25	23 00	103 36	95 32	89 13	49 40	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.......	1853	6	45	...	2	61	163	100	2,166	37	62	126 05	490 51	222 11	218 18	203 52	Samuel Storrs Howe.
1. Des Moines.............	1845	...	5	...	...	10	23	11	253	6	16	12 65	12 50	....	....	104 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk.................	1852	...	7	...	2	8	8	7	337	...	5	17 70	26 55	27 61	44 45	18 85	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City...............	1852	...	12	...	...	18	27	35	558	8	21	46 95	142 96	23 00	173 73	34 06	Isaae W. Atherton.
4. Dubuque................	1855	...	7	...	...	4	7	12	198	3	10	10 65	204 00	116 50	....	46 61	Samuel Newbury.
5. Cedar Valley...........	1857	...	8	...	...	13	50	22	460	13	...	23 00	58 00	55 00	....	....	Calvin Waterbury.
6. Chariton................	1860	...	6	...	...	8	48	13	360	7	10	15 10	46 50	....	....	....	Asa Martin.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA...	1858	3	24	1	2	21	22	25	628	3	23	$31 95	$147 58	$133 15	$142 85	$83 04	Edward D. Neill.
1. Dakota....................	1846	...	10	1	...	8	...	...	168	...	...	8 50	....	....	....	....	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota................	1850	...	9	...	...	9	13	13	287	...	17	14 35	91 00	99 00	....	....	John Mattocks.
3. Winona.................	1857	...	5	...	2	4	9	12	173	3	6	9 10	56 58	34 15	142 85	83 04	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI...	1832	4	20	3	2	22	74	94	1,022	20	52	53 25	399 70	209 50	309 25	84 45	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis................	1831	...	7	...	2	3	20	31	479	2	22	25 50	354 70	205 50	309 25	84 45	Edmund Wright.
2. Lexington.............	1842	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	114	...	...	5 70	....	....	....	....	Timothy Morgan.
3. Northern Missouri....	1845	...	3	...	...	4	1	2	209	1	6	11 05	23 00	4 00	....	....	James A. Darrah.
4. Kansas..................	1859	...	6	3	...	11	53	61	220	17	24	11 00	22 00	....	....	....	Judson Aspinwall.
XXII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA.	1857	4	21	...	...	16	6	18	571	1	8	....	183 00	100 00	....	23 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco*........	1849	...	6	...	...	3	...	...	143	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada*........	1857	...	5	...	...	5	...	...	179	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	Walter Frear.
3. San José................	1857	...	10	...	...	8	6	18	249	1	8	....	183 00	100 00	....	23 00	Wm. Wallaee Brier.
4. Washoe.................	1863																

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

II. OF THE SYNODS.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	81	4	7	72	232	100	7,971	77	142	$275.86	$4,764.18	$2,968.05	$844.34	$3,637.34
2. Utica	1829	4	84	9	10	71	184	160	6,817	81	117	176.90	4,510.23	3,995.59	858.89	1,742.10
3. Geneva	1812	6	108	4	4	91	287	198	8,994	125	134	428.16	2,722.69	2,580.40	3,718.83	2,002.75
4. Onondaga	1855	4	86	30	12	69	206	227	7,961	90	112	348.86	2,917.84	2,738.26	3,414.65	2,256.87
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	38	...	5	42	257	77	3,656	113	71	128.32	888.73	1,072.18	315.85	462.80
6. Genesee	1821	6	133	6	9	99	471	320	12,378	200	180	529.17	5,575.23	4,564.77	4,854.29	4,469.51
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	273	54	48	162	981	1094	27,333	221	587	1338.25	37,168.22	36,854.69	13,296.92	9,836.67
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	101	11	35	84	348	365	13,409	94	403	653.55	40,222.72	8,306.90	5.947.90	4,799.84
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	26	2	1	33	109	59	3,006	47	81	147.00	2,321.11	1,545.47	2.203.06	1,259.64
10. Michigan	1834	9	96	5	9	107	320	261	8,513	81	224	432.69	3,389.53	2,485.57	1,769.25	1,819.87
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	99	5	20	84	198	178	6,425	77	156	297.66	3,191.28	3,486.38	3,310.83	2,008.47
12. Ohio	1814	4	56	6	...	69	193	93	4,736	73	158	190.10	1,693.47	1,625.69	1,429.02	1,312.37
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	57	15	7	52	107	112	3,598	30	158	264.40	3,990.42	1,861.11	1,082.95	798.20
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	3	7	61	80	73	3,461	31	123	187.57	1,461.40	1,735.36	1,569.72	557.75
15. Wabash	1851	4	38	...	...	54	102	63	2,613	39	77	128.90	557.45	678.64	709.55	559.13
16. Illinois	1831	4	68	3	6	86	223	103	4,523	67	105	216.65	2,830.12	1.233.15	2,317.58	806.53
17. Peoria	1843	6	90	...	5	71	156	319	4,887	43	174	241.75	2,564.38	1.993.61	831.80	1,663.91
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	30	1	...	27	25	40	1,224	6	44	66.02	417.60	138.33	217.07	181.28
19. Iowa	1853	6	45	...	2	61	163	100	2,166	37	62	126.05	490.51	222.11	218.18	203.52
20. Minnesota	1858	3	24	1	2	21	22	25	628	3	23	31.95	147.58	133.15	142.85	83.04
21. Missouri	1832	4	20	3	2	22	74	94	1,022	20	52	53.25	399.70	209.50	309.25	84.45
22. Alta California	1857	3	21	...	...	16	6	18	571	1	8	....	183.00	100.00	....	23.00
		106	1616	162	191	1454	4744	4079	135,894	1556	3191	$6263.06	$122,407.39	$80,528.91	$49,362.78	$40,569.04

MINUTES, 1864.

Dayton, Ohio, May 19th, 1864.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Third street Presbyterian church, of the city of Dayton, Ohio, on Thursday, the 19th of May, 1864, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Ephesians 4 : 13: "Till we all come, in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned to meet at half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [448]

Thursday, May 19th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Stated Clerk announced to the Assembly, that information had been received from the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Permanent Clerk, that he would not be present during the sessions of the Assembly.

The Rev. T. Ralston Smith, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, was elected Permanent Clerk *pro tempore.*

The report of the Committee on Commissions was presented by the Permanent Clerk, *pro tem.*, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled, as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	Andrew M. Millar,	Hascall D. Savage.
2. *Troy,*	Samuel M. Wood.	
3. *Albany,*	Philander Barbour,	Hon. F. H. Hastings.
4. *Columbia,*	John Whitney (2),	Leroy L. Brown (2).
5. *Catskill,*	Alexander O. Peloubet.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	Herman C. Riggs.	
2. *Watertown,*	Enos Wood,	Solon Massey.
3. *Oswego,*	Peter W. Emens,	J. Gilbert Benedict.
4. *Utica,*	Chester Fitch,	
	Timothy B. Jervis.	

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga,*	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	Hon. James M. Monroe (2).
2. *Cayuga,*	Samuel W. Boardman,	Israel Parsons, M. D.,
	Tertius S. Clarke, D. D.,	James Henderson (4).
3. *Cortland,*	Huntington Lyman,	Cyrus Coy.
4. *Tioga,*	George N. Boardman.	

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	William Atwood,	Theron Van Auken,
	Frederick Starr, Jr.,	William Herries.
2. *Steuben*,	Samuel A. Rawson.	
3. *Chemung*,	George C. Curtis, D. D.,	Simeon Benjamin.
4. *Ithaca*,	Corydon W. Higgins (2),	Dickson C. Hazen.
5. *Wellsborough*,	Samuel J. McCullough.	
6. *Lyons*,	Arunah H. Lilly,	Bailey D. Foster.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	J. Addison Priest,	Elias Child.
2. *Chenango*,	Samuel N. Robinson (3).	
3. *Delaware*,	Allen J. Buell,	Orrin S. Penfield. [449]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Chalon Burgess,	Horace Stillman,
	Edwin S. Wright, D. D.,	Abijah F. Taylor (2).
2. *Ontario*,	Joseph R. Page.	
3. *Rochester*,	James H. Phelps,	Harley N. Bushnell,
	Byron Bosworth,	David Dickey (5).
4. *Genesee*,	T. Morey Hodgman,	Andrew Thomson.
5. *Niagara*,	William G. Hubbard,	William H. Frost.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Milton Waldo,	Kindell Wilder.

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Henry Osborn,	William Redfield.
2. *North River*,	William N. Sayre,	Isaac Smith.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker (2),	Joseph Wells.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	Charles Merrill,
	James G. Craighead,	Horatio A. Nelson,
	T. Ralston Smith,	Charles A. Davison.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	Marcus C. Riggs,
	Thomas S. Hastings,	Hermon Griffin,
	Howard Crosby, D. D.,	Tobias D. Lander.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Spencer Marsh,	William Churchill.
7. *Newark*,	J. Few Smith, D. D.,	Hon. Horace J. Poinier,
	Daniel W. Poor, D. D.,	William S. Morris.
8. *Rockaway*,	John M. Johnson.	
9. *Montrose*,	Charles S. Dunning,	James Leighton,
	Asahel L. Clark,	William Wright.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	J. Garland Hamner,	Edward T. Taylor.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	J. Glentworth Butler,	George W. Simons,
	William E. Moore,	Samuel W. Butler, M. D.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	John B. Stevenson,
	Elias J. Richards,	Samuel H. Perkins.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Alexander D. Moore,	John A. Weir.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Halsey Dunning (6),	David Bassett.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	James F. Read, D. D.,	Rufus L. Perkins.
2. *Meadville*,	Richard Craighead,	Joseph Dickson.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks.	

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Thomas Forster,	Jacob S. Farrand.
2. *Monroe*,	George Duffield, Jr.,	Hon. Charles Noble.
3. *Marshall*,	Evan L. Davies.	
4. *Washtenaw*,	Benjamin Franklin,	Peter C. Vreeland (3).
5. *Kalamazoo*,	William T. Bartle,	William C. Hayne.
6. *Coldwater*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	John Chandler.
7. *Saginaw*,	William C. Smith,	Hon. James Seymour.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Augustus Marsh,	John D. Bennett.
9. *Lake Superior.*		

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XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River.*		
2. *Huron*,	Samuel D. Smith,	Elijah Bemis.
3. *Trumbull*,	Xenophon Betts,	Peter Allen, M. D. (2).
4. *Cleveland and Portage.*	Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Joseph E. Tinker, John B. Allen,	Isaac L'Hommedieu.
5. *Elyria*,	Francis A. Wilbur,	Isaac L. Fisher.
6. *Maumee*,	Nathaniel T. Fay (2).	

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Henry C. Cheadle.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.,	Charles Wallace (2).
3. *Franklin*,	Oren H. Newton,	Seth W. Case (4).
4. *Scioto*,	Eli P. Adams,	Joseph Riggs.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D., Osman A. Lyman,	Edward D. Mansfield.
2. *Ripley*,	John Rankin,	James Snedaker.
3. *Dayton*,	S. Granby Spees, D. D.,	Hon. Peter Odlin.
4. *Hamilton*,	Clement E. Babb,	Robert Erwin (2).

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Elisha Ballantine.	
2. *Madison*,	W. Wallace Atterbury.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Arthur T. Rankin (3),	Jacob C. Adams (4).
4. *Green Castle*,	Henry A. Rosseter.	

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Samuel S. Thomson,	Isaac M. Coen (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	Almon G. Martin.	
3. *Logansport*,	James A. Carnahan,	Samuel Favorite.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Andrew D. Jack (2),	John N. Gossitt.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois,*	Morgan L. Wood,	Richard E. Wilder.
2. *Schuyler,*	Isaac T. Whittemore.	
3. *Wabash,*	Robert Rutherford,	Alexander McKinney.
4. *Alton,*	Edward B. Olmsted,	David E. Beatty,
	Charles H. Foote,	Frank A. Sabin, M. D. (2).

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa,*	Levi P. Crawford,	Joseph Baker (2).
2. *Knox,*	Edwards Marsh,	William A. Wood.
3. *Galena and Belvidere.*	Benjamin Folts,	Gilbert E. Collins,
	Eugene H. Avery,	Charles Williams.
4. *Chicago,*	Robert W. Patterson, D. D.,	Ebenezer Jenkins.
5. *Bloomington,*	John H. Dillingham,	Bernard Fowler. [451]

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee,*	Edmund F. Waldo.	
2. *Fox River,*	James Bassett,	John L. Millard.
3. *Columbus,*	Hiram H. Kellogg,	John B. Dwinnell (2).

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines,*	Francis M. Dimmick.	
2. *Keokuk,*	Gamaliel C. Beaman.	
3. *Iowa City,*	Abner D. Chapman,	James G. Irwin (2).
4. *Dubuque,*	Samuel Newbury,	Bushnell K. Bronson (2).
5. *Chariton,*	John Fisher,	Charles H. Howell.
6. *Cedar Valley,*	John Glass.	

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota,*	Jacob E. Conrad.	
2. *Minnesota,*	Jesse L. Howell (2),	William S. Potts.
3. *Winona,*	Edmund D. Holt.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis,*	Edmund Wright (2),	Edwin Barnard (2).
2. *Lexington,*	Timothy Morgan.	
3. *Northern Missouri,*	James J. Wilson (2).	
4. *Kansas,*	James V. A. Woods,	William S. Hibbard.

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*
2. *Sierra Nevada.*
3. *San José.*
4. *Washoe.*

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly that met in Peoria, in* 1863, Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*

3. *General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America,*	Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D.
4. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*	
5. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States,*	Rev. David Winters.
6. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,*	Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D. [452]
7. *General Conference of Maine.*	
8. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
9. *General Convention of Vermont,*	Rev. Alfred Stevens.
10. *General Association of Massachusetts.*	
11. *General Association of Connecticut.*	
12. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
13. *Union of the Evangelical Churches in France.*	

The Committee further reported, that the Rev. Eugene H. Avery, of the Presbytery of Galena and Belvidere, and Elder James Snedaker, of the Presbytery of Ripley, were present without Commissions; and their cases were referred to a *Committee on Elections*, consisting of the Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., and Mr. Samuel H. Perkins.

The Committee on Elections presently reported, that sufficient evidence had been laid before them of the election of the Rev. Eugene H. Avery and Mr. James Snedaker, and recommended that they be admitted as members of the Assembly.

The report was adopted, and their names were entered upon the Roll.

The Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. George Duffield, Jr., of the Presbytery of Monroe, and the Rev. Charles S. Dunning, of the Presbytery of Montrose, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 8½ o'clock A. M., to 12 o'clock M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M., to 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed among the members.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk; and

That it be made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, to receive the Synodical Records, and the papers from the respective Presbyteries, as well as all other papers of an official character intended for the Assembly; and

That it be made the second order of the day to receive the annual reports of all the Permanent Committees, except the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, the time for which report is fixed for the third day of the sessions. [453]

Resolved, That a meeting for prayer in behalf of our country be held this evening at 7¾ o'clock, and that Rev. Thornton A. Mills be requested to preside.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After the calling of the Roll the following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered on the Roll:

James J. Wilson, Minister, from the Presbytery of Northern Missouri.
Epher Whitaker, “ “ Long Island.
Corydon W. Higgins, “ “ Ithaca.
John Whitney. “ “ Columbia.
Jesse L. Howell, “ “ Minnesota.
Andrew D. Jack, “ “ Fort Wayne.
Robert Erwin, Elder, “ Hamilton.
Hon. Jas. M. Monroe, “ “ Onondaga.
Leroy L. Brown, “ “ Columbia.
Charles Wallace, “ “ Pataskala.
James G. Irwin, “ “ Iowa City.
Isaac M. Coen, “ “ Crawfordsville.
Bushnell K. Bronson, “ “ Dubuque.
John B. Dwinnell, “ “ Columbus.
Abijah F. Taylor, “ “ Buffalo.
Frank A. Sabin, M. D., “ “ Alton.

Also, the Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Oren H. Newton. James F. Read, D. D., Samuel A. Rawson, James V. A. Woods. *Elders*—Hon. Charles Noble, Hon. Peter Odlin, Samuel H. Perkins, Marcus C. Riggs, Horace Stillman. [454]

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Elisha Ballantine, Tertius S. Clarke. D. D., Samuel M. Sparks, Abner D. Chapman. *Elders*—Charles Williams, Charles A. Davison, Gilbert E. Collins, William S. Potts, John Chandler.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry B. Smith, D. D., William E. Moore, John Rankin, Xenophon Betts, Thomas Forster, Jacob E. Conrad. *Elders*—Edward D. Mansfield, Israel Parsons, M. D., Samuel Favorite, Ebenezer Jenkins, Tobias D. Lander.

4. *Church Erection. Ministers*—J. Glentworth Butler, Philander Barbour, George N. Boardman, Charles H. Foote, Eli P. Adams, James G. Craighead. *Elders*—Hon. Horace J. Poinier, William Redfield, William C. Haynes, William A. Wood, Theron Van Auken.

5. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Howard Crosby, D. D., James A. Carnahan, Edmund D. Holt, William N. Sayre. *Elders*—Hon. Frederick H. Hastings. Edward T. Taylor, Hon. James Seymour, William Churchill, William S. Hibbard.

6. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Sherman B. Canfield. D. D., Richard Craighead, Edward B. Olmsted, T. Morey Hodgman, Francis A. Wilbur, Spencer Marsh. *Elders*—Horatio A. Nelson, Rufus L. Perkins, Samuel W. Butler, M. D., Bernard Fowler, Isaac L'Hommedieu.

7. *Education.* *Ministers*—J. Few Smith, D. D., Samuel S. Thomson, Gustavus L. Foster, Frederick Starr, Jr., William T. Bartle, James H. Phelps. *Elders*—Hascall D. Savage, Dickson C. Hazen, Charles H. Howell, Joseph Riggs, George W. Simons.

8. *Publication.* *Ministers*—George C. Curtis, D. D., Hiram H. Kellogg, Elias J. Richards, Edwin S. Wright, D. D., W. Wallace Atterbury, Samuel W. Boardman. *Elders*—Simeon Benjamin, John D. Bennett, Elias Child, James Snedaker, David E. Beatty. [455]

9. *Narrative.* *Ministers*—Thomas S. Hastings, J. Addison Priest, Evan L. Davies, J. Garland Hamner. *Elders*—William S. Morris, Elijah Bemis, John L. Millard.

10. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—Joseph R. Page, Chester Fitch, Edmund F. Waldo, Osman A. Lyman. *Elders*—Joseph Wells, Alexander McKinney, Isaac L. Fisher.

11. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—S. Granby Spees, D. D., Henry Osborn, Andrew M. Millar, Isaac T. Whittemore. *Elders*—John B. Stevenson, Charles Merrill, John W. Gossitt.

12. *Mileage.* *Elders*—Jacob S. Farrand, Hermon Griffin, John A. Weir.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—John M. Johnson, Augustus Marsh, Francis A. Wilbur. *Elders*—James Leighton, Joseph Dixon.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—Samuel D. Smith, Samuel M. Wood, Henry C. Cheadle. *Elders*—Orrin S. Penfield, Cyrus Coy.

3. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Peter W. Emens, Andrew M. Millar, Samuel J. McCullough. *Elders*—Dickson C. Hazen, William H. Frost.

4. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Francis M. Dimmick, Almon G. Martin, John B. Allen. *Elders*—Joseph Riggs, William C. Hayne.

5. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—Levi P. Crawford, Benjamin Franklin, Henry A. Rosseter. *Elders*—William Wright, Charles Merrill.

6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—John H. Dillingham, James Bassett, William C. Smith. *Elders*—Edward T. Taylor, William S. Morris.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—William E. Moore, Richard Craighead, Timothy Morgan. *Elders*—George W. Simons, Joseph Dixon.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Howard Crosby, D. D., Asahel L. Clarke, Jacob E. Conrad. *Elders*—Hon. Horace J. Poinier, Joseph Wells.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Henry Osborn, Gamaliel C. Beaman, Arunah H. Lilly. *Elders*—Simeon Benjamin, Elias Child.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Xenophon Betts, Alexander D. Moore, Samuel S. Thomson. *Elders*—David E. Beatty, Gilbert E. Collins. [456]

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Evan L. Davies, Huntington Lyman, Chalon Burgess. *Elders*—Harley N. Bushnell, Bailey D. Foster.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Chester Fitch, Frederick Starr, Jr., Samuel Newbury. *Elders*—William S. Potts, Charles H. Howell.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Gustavus L. Foster, Joseph E. Tinker, J. Addison Priest. *Elders*—Horace Stillman, Israel Parsons, M. D.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Charles S. Dunning, John M. Johnson, J. Garland Hamner. *Elders*—William Churchill, Isaac Smith.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Enos Wood, Samuel A. Rawson, Abner D. Chapman. *Elders*—William S. Hibbard, Alexander McKinney.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Allen J. Buell, Joseph R. Page, William G. Hubbard. *Elders*—Andrew Thompson, Kindell Wilder.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Milton Waldo, Byron Bosworth, Timothy B. Jervis. *Elders*—Solon Massey, Hascall D. Savage.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Edwin S. Wright, D. D., George N. Boardman, Herman C. Riggs. *Elders*—J. Gilbert Benedict, William Herries.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Philander Barbour, William T. Bartle, Oren H. Newton. *Elders*—Isaac L. Fisher, John D. Bennett.

20. *Minnesota.* *Ministers*—James H. Phelps, Augustus Marsh, Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—John Chandler, Elijah Bemis.

21. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—William Atwood, Thomas Forster, Robert Rutherford. *Elders*—William A. Wood, John N. Gossitt.

22. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Morgan L. Wood, Benjamin Folts, Edwards Marsh. *Elders*—Charles Williams, Bernard Fowler.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers of the Presbyteries, which were duly referred to the Standing Committees.

The annual reports of the Permanent Committees on Foreign Missions, Education for the Ministry, and Home Missions, were read, accepted, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [457]

Friday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Edmund Wright, Minister, from the Presbytery of St. Louis.
Edwin Barnard, Elder, " " "
Joseph Baker, " " " Ottawa.
Peter Allen, M. D., " " " Trumbull.

The annual reports of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and the Treasurer of the Presbyterian House, were read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Edward D. Mansfield and Edward T. Taylor, as an *Auditing Committee.*

The same Committee were instructed to present a minute in respect to the decease of the late Treasurer, Anthony P. Halsey, Esq., and also to nominate his successor.

The Lafayette avenue Presbyterian church, in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

A Committee, consisting of Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., and Mr. William Churchill, were appointed, to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

Resolved, That the subject of a revision of the topics, included in the Statistical Reports required from the churches, be referred to a *Committee* of five members, to report during the present sessions of the Assembly.

The Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Richard Craighead, and Rev. Augustus Marsh were appointed to this service.

The Rev. David Winters, a Delegate from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, appeared, and communicated a proposition for the opening of a correspondence with this newly organized body.

It was resolved that a correspondence be entered into with the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, on the same basis on which we correspond with other ecclesiastical bodies.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a minute in reference to the tercentenary of the decease of John Calvin.

Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., Rev. S. Granby Spees, D. D., and Rev. Clement E. Babb, were appointed to this service.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. George E. Pierce, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecti[458]cut, from the Rev. Lewis H. Reid, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. Jotham Sewall, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from the Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States; from the Rev. D. Hopkins Emerson, the Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States; from the Rev. William Sterling, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; from the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church in North America; from the Rev. Albert Barnes, the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; and from the Rev. Lyman Gilbert, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Rev. Nathaniel T. Fay, of the Presbytery of Maumee, appeared as a Commissioner to this Assembly without the usual credentials. His case was referred to the Committee on Elections, who presently reported that the evidence of his election was satisfactory, and recommending that he be admitted to a seat in the Assembly.

The report was adopted, and his name was entered upon the Roll.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

They also reported, recommending that there be a public service in this church this evening at a quarter before 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., be invited to preach; and recommending further, that on Monday evening next a meeting be held in this church, under the direction of the Moderator, in the interests of the United States Christian Commission.

The recommendations were adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Arthur T. Rankin, Minister, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis.
Samuel N. Robinson, " " " Chenango.
Peter C. Vreeland, Elder, " " Washtenaw. [459]

Also, Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.

It was made the first order for Tuesday afternoon next, to receive the communications of Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

Additional reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. Charles H. Foote, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and from the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and Mr. William H. Brown, the Delegates to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which met last year at Peoria.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

The Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, on the subject of Sabbath-schools, Sabbath services, and the relations of the sessions of the churches thereto, presented a report, which was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Edmund Wright, and Rev. Gamaliel C. Beaman.

The Committee to nominate a *Committee of Arrangements* for the next General Assembly recommended the appointment of the following persons: the Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, the Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Messrs. Gurdon Burchard, William W. Wickes, William Churchill, Walter S. Griffith, Henry Ide, and J. C. Halsey, M. D.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1,—a memorial from the Presbyterian Historical Society, asking this Assembly to adopt such action, as may aid the Society in its present efforts to secure funds for the erection of a fire-proof building, for the preservation of its valuable collections, and for an endowment, the interest of which shall be applied to the general purposes of the library.

The Committee recommended the following action:

Resolved, That the Assembly regards with favor the objects of the Presbyterian Historical Society, and also its present efforts to secure funds for the erection of a suitable fire-proof building, for the safe preservation of its valuable collections, and for an endowment, and commends the Society to the confidence and favor of our people.

The report was adopted.

The Committee also reported Overture No. 2—asking what order should be taken in regard to those Presbyteries, which do not [460] adopt the Assembly's plan for the payment of the expenses of their Commissioners. The Committee recommended

That the Assembly earnestly reiterate the sentiments and recommendation of the last General Assembly, (Minutes, pp. 329, 330,) and urge them especially upon the attention and fraternal feelings of the older and larger Presbyteries. The strong should help the weak, otherwise the new and distant Presbyteries must be imperfectly and irregularly represented, and thus their connection with the Church becomes loose, nominal, and uncertain, instead of being that vital, mutually helpful, and permanent relation which it ought to be.

This principle of mutual help is carried much further in the Free Church of Scotland, where all the money contributed to the support of the ministry is thrown into a common fund, and thence disbursed to the different pastors. Thus they who gather much have nothing over, and they who gather little have no lack.

The report was adopted.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson. D. D., with Elders George W. Simons, and Edward D. Mansfield, were appointed to prepare a minute *on the state of the country.*

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions presented a special report, as directed by the last General Assembly, in regard to the expediency of publishing, in a popular form, information relating to the work specially committed to their care.

The report was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, Rev. Charles H. Foote, Rev. Samuel W. Boardman, and Messrs. Simeon Benjamin, Hon. Horace J. Poinier, Hon. Charles Noble, and Charles A. Davison.

The Special Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to report on the subject of making provision for disabled ministers, and the families of ministers deceased, presented their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be placed on the docket.

A communication was received, by telegraph, from the General Assembly now in session at Newark, N. J., requesting this Assembly to unite with that body in spending the afternoon of Wednesday next in thanksgiving and prayer for our beloved country.

The request was unanimously acceded to, and the Stated Clerk directed to inform the Assembly at Newark, by telegraph, that this body will unite with them on Wednesday next, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises. [461]

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with, until the close of the sessions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported, and their names were added to the Roll:

Seth W. Case, Elder, from the Presbytery of Franklin.
James Henderson, " " Cayuga.
Jacob C. Adams, " " Indianapolis.

A *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies was appointed, consisting of Rev. Tertius S. Clarke, D. D., Rev. James A. Carnahan, Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, Hon. James M. Monroe, and Mr. David Bassett.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 3, from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, inquiring what shall be done, in making up the annual statistical reports, with those members whose place of residence is not known to the session.

Your Committee report: That, according to repeated declarations of previous Assemblies, (see pp. 41–3 of the "Digest,") such names cannot be stricken from the Roll. Each session, in making up its own report, is at liberty to state the number of such members. And this Committee recommend, that the question of providing an additional column for such cases in the statistical returns be referred to the Special Committee of this Assembly, which now has the subject of these tables in its charge.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee further reported Overture No. 2:

An application from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, that Presbyteries may be authorized to receive for a time under their care churches in the slaveholding States, where we have no Presbyteries formed.

A similar case was submitted by the same Presbytery in 1859, (see "Minutes," pp. 16, 17, 18, and "Digest," p. 131.)* No further action is required.

The report was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 4, as follows:

A minister who has laid aside the active duties of the profession, and engaged in a secular calling, though he occasionally preaches and administers the ordinances, and attends meetings of Presbytery, wishes to be informed whether it is compatible with the discipline of our Church, for him to accept the office of ruling elder in the church where he resides.

Your Committee find that the question must, according to our Constitution, be answered in the negative. (See "Form of Government," Chap. XIII., sec. 2.)

The report was adopted.

A report was received from the Rev. John Sailor, the Delegate [462] appointed by the last General Assembly to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, That the subject of the relation of unemployed ministers to the churches among whom they reside, and whom they may be desired and are disposed to serve as ruling elders, be referred to a *Committee*, to consider and recommend what action can and ought to be taken by the Assembly for removing the constitutional restrictions which prevent the employment of such ministers in the service of the church as ruling elders; and report to the next Assembly.

Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Edwin F, Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., and Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., were appointed to this service.

The Rev. Thomas E. Vermilye, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

It was recommended, that the first week of January be observed as a week of prayer, with reference to the Conversion of the World; and that the last Thursday in February be devoted to the spiritual interests of students in our Colleges and other seminaries of learning.

The Stated Clerk reported, that he had notified the Presbyteries of the action of the last Assembly in relation to the "Church Psalmist," and that he had received a reply from only fifteen Presbyteries, a number too small to justify any general report.

The report was accepted.

Messrs. Marcus C. Riggs, Tobias D. Lander, and Charles A. Davison were appointed auditors of the Church Erection accounts for the ensuing year.

It was made the order for 5 o'clock this afternoon, to hear the Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

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* Reprint, pp. 16, 17.

The Committee on Commissions reported that the Rev Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., the Delegate from the General Assembly which met last year at Peoria, was present, and his name was added to the Roll.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows: [463]

It is not for the sake of mere form, that the Standing Committee recommend the adoption of the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions. That document was prepared with evident and commendable diligence, accuracy, and zeal for the honor of Him who, having tasted death for every man, said to his disciples: "Go, teach all nations." Presenting facts and suggestions fitted at once to humble, encourage, and guide us, it deserves to be read and pondered by all the ministers, elders, and members of our branch of the Church of Christ.

Some things brought to view in the report merit special attention.

1. The urgent importance of a general and vigorous compliance with the recommendation of the General Assembly of 1863. That recommendation is expressed in a resolution which was adopted unanimously, and which, for convenience of reference, is here quoted:

"*Resolved*, That each Presbytery connected with the Assembly be earnestly requested to arrange, at their next meeting, for the thorough and systematic presentation of the claims of the cause of Foreign Missions to each of their churches, and, as far as possible, to every member thereof; and to appoint one of their ministers or elders as the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions, whose duty it shall be to see that the cause is presented to each church; to report at each meeting of the Presbytery; and also to report annually to the Permanent Committee of the Assembly what each church has done for the cause during the year; and that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be requested to furnish, to the Permanent Committee, the name of the minister or elder, who shall be appointed the presbyterial agent for Foreign Missions."

Nothing has transpired during the past year to show that this action was not eminently wise. So far as the Standing Committee can see, it was as likely to meet with a cordial and practical response as any action, either then or now possible, on the part of the Assembly; and, thoroughly carried out by the Presbyteries, it would accomplish many exceedingly desirable results. It would greatly increase the amount of contributions, and stir up in many hearts a more fervent spirit of prayer for the conversion of the world to Christ. It would remind not a few of their stewardship to God, and their obligation to manifest their gratitude for the light of the Gospel, by imparting it to those who sit in the region and shadow of death. It would diffuse much valuable information on the progress of Christ's kingdom in the world, and thus awaken interest and hope by turning attention to the promises of the Lord and the signs of the times.

It would show the efficiency of the voluntary principle in the work of Christianization both at home and abroad, and would develop the energy, and illustrate the peculiar adaptation, of the presbyterial system for that work.

The report of that action gave joy to our missionaries. It was an encouraging sign of spiritual growth in our churches; and seem[464]ed to promise a large increase of sympathy, between us and those whom we have sent forth to the labors and trials of preaching Christ to the dark-minded and degraded.

2. The second thing in that report deserving our serious attention, is the partial, not to say general, failure of the Presbyteries, suitably to respond to

the Assembly's earnest request That failure has not probably been so general, as the lack of reports from the Presbyteries might seem to indicate. There is reason to believe that many of those bodies have taken some action on the subject, and intended to do more, and yet have fallen short of a full performance of the work recommended.

Since the last report there has been an increase of thirty-four in the number of contributing churches, and of $10,000 in the amount contributed.

Yet it is painfully manifest, that far less has been accomplished than might reasonably have been expected. The failure referred to cannot be justified on the ground, that many things in the state of our country have tended to withdraw attention from Foreign Missions, and to divert contributions to objects at home. Our Lord's command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," is neither repealed nor suspended. The maxim or excuse, *Inter arma leges silent*, cannot reach the grand law of Missions. The work of evangelizing the heathen is pre-eminently a work of faith. It is performed with trust in Him to whom there are no insurmountable obstacles, and who is able to bless his people in all obedience. It was when the British people were amid the perils and under the heavy burdens of their long war with revolutionary France, that the Lord caused the spirit of missionary enterprise and liberality to spread more and more among them; and it was when our nation was entering upon its second trial of arms against England, that the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions was ushered into the world, and made to grow in the affections of Christians.

The voice of the Lord, bidding us abound in his work, the wail of more than six hundred millions of souls on their way to the judgment without the Gospel; aye, and the entreaties also of our missionaries, ought to be heard above all the din and roar of our civil war. During the three years of our struggle with a rebellion born of slavery, these missionaries have evinced an intense interest in the success of our government, and in the overthrow of that system of iniquity which has been not only a source of peril to our country, but a stumbling-block to the heathen. We have had their prayers, their contributions to relieve our sick and wounded soldiers, and, in several instances, their sons to help us fight our battles. When such servants of the Lord remind us of the door of access to the heathen—wide as the world—and when we see them laboring in some of the most fruitful and hopeful parts of the great field, under the auspices of that Board with which our relations continue to be so harmonious, shall we be deaf to their request for more men and ampler means to shed the light of saving knowledge? [465] At a time when we are a spectacle to the whole world, our example of munificence toward many other worthy objects ought not to be marred by a defect of liberality towards this cause, so noble in its philanthropy, and so dear to Him who holds all the interests of our country in His hand. Our great need as a nation is not of more money, nor of more men. Our physical resources are abundant. What we should seek above all things else is the favor of God, and the righteousness which exalteth a nation. Now the spirit of Missions is a vitalizing spirit to those sentiments and principles, which are essential to prepare us to solve aright some of the most difficult problems growing out of our present struggle. To view all men, of whatever race, or color, or present condition, from the stand-point of the Cross and of a common salvation, would strongly tend to raise the Church and the nation to that high moral level to which our safety requires us to ascend.

The Committee recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Commissioners to this General Assembly be earnestly requested, at the next meeting of their respective Presbyteries, to call particular attention to this great cause, with the view of securing a thorough compliance with the recommendation of the last Assembly.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our ministers to magnify this cause in their ministrations, and to co-operate with the presbyterial agent by exchanges, and in such other ways as they shall find practicable, in order to have it presented to all our churches.

Resolved, That, on account of the unexpected increase in the cost of exchange, whereby one dollar contributed here amounts to only sixty cents in the currency of the world when sent abroad, all of our churches who can do so, be earnestly requested to add forty per cent. to their contributions of last year; and, if their contributions have already been made, that the Assembly suggest to them to take up an extra collection to meet the difference of exchange, as a part of our war burden, that we may do what we can to keep the Board from closing its current financial year in debt.

The term of service of Asa D. Smith, D. D., Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. John McLeod. and Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., as members of the Permanent Committee expires at this time, and by the death of J. Parsons Hovey, D. D., a vacancy has occurred in the class whose term of service expires in 1865. The Committee recommend the election of Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. John McLeod. Rev. R. Russell Booth, Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Mr. William Churchill, to serve three years; and Rev. T. Ralston Smith, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.

The Committee on the State of the Country presented their report, which was unanimously adopted (the whole Assembly rising in expression of their approbation,) and is as follows: [466]

Whereas, The iniquitous rebellion, prompted by reckless ambition in the defense and furtherance of human slavery, continues to lift itself against the liberal and legitimate Government of the United States; and

Whereas, Such rebellion not only violates the sacred principle of obedience to the authorities ordained of God, but also directly advocates the hindrance of the free progress of God's Holy Word, and thus, as Anti-Christ, opposes itself to the truth; and,

Whereas, Its aiders and abettors are responsible for the sea of blood that has been shed, through their resistance to the righteous efforts of the Government to save the life and integrity of the nation; and,

Whereas, It becomes the Church of Christ to utter no uncertain voice in regard to a grand public fact—so intimately and essentially associated with its interests; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly heartily re-affirms the principles, and renews the declarations, of previous General Assemblies, so far as applicable to the present aspect of public affairs.

Resolved, 2. That we recognize clearly the good hand of our God in all the victories of the national arms, whereby the limits of the rebellion have been contracted, and its vitality impaired; and we look humbly and confidently to the same Divine source for further success, until the cause of the nation shall be vindicated and peace established on the grave of treason.

Resolved, 3. That we also recognize the same good hand of our God in the disappointments and delays of the war, by which he has made more sure the complete destruction of the vile system of human bondage, and rendered less self-confident and more religious the heart of the nation.

Resolved, 4. That, in such recognition and hope, we do by no means lose sight of our national and individual sins, which render us so utterly unworthy of the Divine favor, but confess them with penitent hearts, and trust to a covenant God in Christ Jesus, that this unworthiness will not hinder the might of God's grace in behalf of the cause of right and order.

Resolved, 5. That we exhort all our churches to renewed zeal and faithfulness in supplication to God for the deliverance of the land, and the prosperity of Christ's kingdom, through the blessings of national peace and fraternity.

Resolved, 6. That we cordially uphold the Government with our sympathies and prayers in its energetic efforts for the suppression of this most causeless and cruel rebellion; and urge all Christians to refrain from weakening the authority of the Administration by ill-timed complaints and unnecessary criticisms, fully believing that, in such a crisis, all speech and action which tend to difference should be studiously avoided for the sake of the common weal.

Resolved, 7. That a copy of these resolutions, duly authenticated, be transmitted to the President of the United States. [467]

Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., with Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins and Walter S. Griffith, were appointed a *Committee* to present this action of the Assembly *to the President* of the United States.

Resolved, That the pastors of the churches be requested to read the same to their congregations.

The following resolution was presented, and referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions:

Resolved, That the Standing Committee on Home Missions be directed to inquire as to the necessity and expediency of the General Assembly's adopting some specific arrangements, whereby the institutions of the Gospel may be given to the large and increasing number of freedmen, who have been emancipated during the present civil war.

The Rev. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, addressed the Assembly, and the Moderator responded.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was added to the Roll:

David Dickey, Elder, from the Presbytery of Rochester.

Resolved, That a *Committee* of nine be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of revising the list of ecclesiastical bodies with which the General Assembly is in *Correspondence*, and of discontinuing the custom of paying the expenses of our Delegates, and to recommend such changes, if any, as in their judgment may appear desirable for the Assembly to inaugurate.

The Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Joseph R. Page, Rev. Gustavus L. Foster, Rev. Timothy B. Jervis, and Messrs. John A. Weir, James G. Irwin, Horace Stillman, and Isaac L'Hommedieu were appointed to serve on this Committee.

At the request of the Mileage Committee, the time for the presentation of the bills of the Commissioners, and the payment of funds, was extended to the close of the present day.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 3, a memorial of the Synod of Michigan on Sabbath-Schools; [468]

And recommended that it be referred to the Special Committee to which was referred the report on the same subjects presented at this meeting by a Committee appointed by the last Assembly.

Also Overture No. 4, on the same subject, from the Presbytery of Otsego;

And recommended that it be referred to the Special Committee on the revision of the Statistical Tables.

Also Overture No. 5, on a periodical, from the Presbytery of Chicago;

And recommended that no further action be taken, inasmuch as the subject is before the Assembly by report from a Committee of the last Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education respectfully present to the General Assembly the following report:

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education, with the accompanying statements from our Theological Seminaries, presents a condition of the Education cause in our Church highly gratifying, and calling for thankfulness to God.

The Assembly's Plan is now fairly in operation; and by its great success in organizing the work in all parts of the Church, and developing the interests of the Church into activity for the furtherance of this cause, it commends itself to the high estimation and confidence of the Assembly.

In view, however, of the fact, that so large a number of churches have failed to make an annual collection for this object, it is evident that there is still need to urge upon the Presbyteries, the importance of carrying out with energy the provisions of the Plan, and securing a hearing for this cause annually, by each of the congregations in connection with us. This is of high importance, not only for procuring the funds necessary for the effective carrying forward of our Educational work, but still more for keeping the mind and heart of the Church alive and earnest in it.

It is gratifying to learn, from the report of the Committee, that they have been able to meet all the demands upon their treasury, giving the young men the full amount of their allowed appropriation, and to reach the close of the year with a balance on hand, prepared to meet the wants of the coming year.

There is also abundant occasion for gratification in the highly prosperous financial condition of our Seminaries. And we notice, with peculiar satisfaction, numerous liberal donations to them, for the endowment of scholarships, the erection or improvement of buildings, the removal of debts, and the enlargement of their facilities for usefulness—examples of intelligent generosity worthy of imitation. The Lord seems to have smiled very benignantly on all the efforts of the General Assembly to place its several evangelizing institutions in working order; and we may congrat[469]ulate ourselves that, as respects the men, and the means, and the organizations, we possess, as a denomination, ample and admirable equipment for the great work committed to us.

The report, however, informs us that the number of students has been smaller than in former years. While there is an evident cause for this, in the fact that many of our promising young men, constrained by a sense of duty, have devoted themselves to the service of the country in connection with the army, and while we give them our hearty approbation, and deem theirs a noble and appropriate sacrifice, the question may yet be asked with some solicitude, Are our churches doing what they may to call out the young men fitted for the ministry, and induce them to consecrate themselves to this sacred work?

A full supply of suitable candidates for the ministry is now a prominent demand upon the Church. All the questions and objections, based upon the number of unemployed ministers and the difficulties of obtaining settlements, vanish before the right view of Christ's arrangement for spreading his Gospel; before his direction to pray that laborers may be sent forth into the great harvest; before the well-considered facts in the case; and especially before the clear indications that, when this fearful war, in which our nation is struggling into a nobler life than she has before known, shall have passed away, there will be a louder call and a wider field for ministers and missionary work, than the Church has yet had presented to her. She must take large views of this work; and while filling her mouth with arguments to address to the Lord of the harvest, must seek to have her heart filled with the grandeur and importance of it. The great idea of entire consecration to God must take complete possession of her, and be a practical power in her living. Household consecration, basing itself with vital, loving faith on God's everlasting covenant with his people, should be an influential principle, and a spiritual habit to her. Let all her children be sacredly set apart for God, to be trained for him to serve him in whatsoever sphere he may appoint. Let faith and prayer seek to secure their early conversion by his grace. Let the Church go back to her ancient faith in this respect; a faith she has never lost, but of whose quickened energy there are encouraging evidences in the increased attention to the religious training of children, and hopeful indications of their conversion. And let the ministry, as a sphere of service for God of unequalled importance and desirableness, be made a prominent theme in the pulpit, in the prayer-meeting, in the family circle, and in the hearts of parents. In addition to general consecration to God, let parents see whether it may not be their privilege and duty to give their children to the ministry; and let it be brought, in a judicious and faithful manner, before the minds of children, so as to lead them to ask earnestly of the Lord what he would have them do. Let the Church be thus persuaded of the high value of the ministry of the Gospel, and its essential importance to her own perpetuity and extension, for Christ's glory, in the sal[470]vation of souls. And let the children of the Church be thus educated for God, and taught to look upon the ministry as a noble and attractive sphere of duty, having prime claims upon them; and the want of ministers, enlarge as it will, will be fully and constantly supplied.

And, what is equally important, we shall thus educate a ministry of the best kind—a ministry devoted to God, inspired with the love of Christ, filled and ruled by the Holy Ghost. In former years, the Education cause has labored under the imputation of bringing into the ministry men not adapted to the work, and of being simply a means of helping those who could not, or would not, help themselves. That imputation, if ever just, is no longer so. The Education Plan of our Assembly is not a charity, nor simply a way of aiding indigent young men into the ministry. It is an agency of the Church for inculcating right views of the nature of the ministerial work, and of calling to that work those who are fitted for it. Its province is to enlighten the mind and stir the conscience of the Church, so that parents and sons in all classes of life may feel God's claims upon them, and may not turn aside to any other sphere of service, however lucrative or pleasing, without carefully considering whether the young men shall not give themselves up to this holy ministry. While, with a due sense of obligation, it aims to assist those who struggle manfully amid difficulties to obtain a fitting preparation for the ministry, it seeks also to call out, for this work, those whose more fortunate circumstances enable them to dispense with such assistance. It will help the needy, and it presents Christ's claims to the rich. It aims to secure men for the ministry, men of right ability and right spirit; and to put them in the way of the best training, whether they need pecuniary assistance or not.

A church deeply moved by love to Christ, and rightly estimating this work, will furnish such men. The Master will walk among her families. and will say to her sons, with a voice to which they will respond with joyful obedience: "Go, preach my Gospel."

It has seemed to your Committee desirable. in view of the increased prices of all the necessaries of life, that the Permanent Committee should be authorized temporarily to increase the amount of appropriations to those who receive the benefit of its funds: and a resolution to that effect is herewith submitted. The authority is limited to the present year, because the difficulty, it is hoped, will be but temporary, and it is not desirable to disturb the permanent rules of the Plan.

The report of the Permanent Committee shows a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $3320.86. This is the accumulation of two years, and marks the success with which the Plan is working; at the same time that it results from the diminution of the number of applicants for aid. It is to be hoped and expected that coming years will furnish a larger number of applicants; while we are also to look for a still larger amount of contributions from the churches, numbers of which have yet contributed nothing; and to expect that each year [471] will furnish the means with which to supply its own demands. Your Committee would suggest, that the Permanent Committee be empowered to invest, in permanent scholarships, such amounts as may remain after the appropriations and expenses of each year have been paid. There will thus be secured a permanent and increasing fund, to meet any exigencies that may arise from financial revulsions or other causes; while there will be a just ground and abundant occasion for the annual presentation of the cause to all the churches.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly finds renewed occasion for confidence in the wisdom and efficiency of the Plan of Education, as managed by the Assembly's Permanent Committee, and for commending it to the cordial regard of the churches.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly would hereby urge upon the Presbyteries a careful observance of the rules of the Plan, and persistent efforts to secure the sympathy and energetic co-operation of all the churches in its behalf; and would also express its sense of the importance of giving to the cause of the Christian ministry a prominence in the pulpit, and in other departments of church life and action.

Resolved, 3. That the Assembly would impress upon the Presbyteries the need of great carefulness in their examination of candidates for the aid of this fund, in respect especially to their intellectual qualifications, the earnestness and spirituality of their piety, and their aptness to teach according to the injunction of the Holy Spirit.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly has heard with much satisfaction the statements of the condition of Auburn, Lane, and Union Theological Seminaries; and commends these institutions to the love, esteem, and still farther liberal benefactions of the churches.

Resolved, 5. That, in view of the present high prices of all articles, the Permanent Committee are hereby authorized to increase the appropriations for the present year, at their discretion, to an amount not exceeding twenty per cent. additional to each appropriation.

Resolved, 6. That the Permanent Committee are hereby empowered to invest in good securities, for permanent scholarships, from time to time, such sums as may remain in their hands, after their regular appropriations and necessary expenses have been paid.

Your Committee would also recommend the following persons for election as members of the Permanent Committee, to supply the places of those whose term of office expires at this time, namely: Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. R. Russell Booth, Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, and Mr. Fisher Howe.

Pending the consideration of the report, a written communication was received from the General Assembly in session at Newark, [472] N. J., conveying more fully the information received by telegraph on the twenty-first instant, that, in view of the condition of our country, they had resolved to spend Wednesday afternoon of this week in thanksgiving to Almighty God for past mercies, and in prayer for his continued blessing upon our country; with a request that this Assembly would unite with them at the same time in the same object.

Thereupon it was resolved to comply with the request, and that the Stated Clerk be instructed to communicate this action to the Moderator of the General Assembly at Newark, N. J., with an assurance of our hearty sympathy with them, in thus commending the case of our beloved country to the favorable regard of the God of our fathers, the Great Head of the Church—both theirs and ours.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported a memorial from the Synod of Onondaga, in relation to the action of the last General Assembly in the case of the complaint of Mr. S. Edwards Todd against certain decisions of that Synod.

In examining this case, the Committee find, first, that the history of the case is briefly this: Mr. S. E. Todd was tried by the Congregational church of Genoa on certain charges, and suspended from the privileges of the church. Mr. Todd entered a complaint against this action before the Presbytery of Cayuga, to the effect that it was grossly irregular, unjust, and unconstitutional. The Presbytery sustained the complaint, but adopted no minute as to the effect of their action in regard to the proceedings complained of. Messrs. William Robinson and Esbon Lyon then carried the case to the Synod, by complaint against the action of the Presbytery, as being unconstitutional; especially in that it was secured by the vote of the Moderator, when he had no right to vote, and for other reasons which it is not necessary here to repeat.

The Synod, by nearly a unanimous vote, sustained the complaint and censured the Presbytery; and then, as they should have done, put upon their records a minute as to the effect of this action upon the proceedings below, namely, that it necessarily annulled the action of the Presbytery, and left that of the church untouched; or, in the language of the Book adopted by the Synod, reversed that of the Presbytery and affirmed that of the church.

The case came before the Assembly of 1863 by complaint of Mr. S. E. Todd against the action of the Synod. We have not this complaint before us; but infer, from the documents that we have, that the complaint was, that the Synod ought to have remanded the case to the Presbytery; but that, instead of doing so, they reviewed and decided the whole case. The action of the last As[473]sembly is found on pages 277–280* of their Minutes. The Judicial Committee found that the forms required by our Book in cases of complaint had not been observed; and yet, deeming that, according to the spirit of the Book, the complaint was properly before the Assembly, proceeded to present their findings in the case, and to recommend that it be remanded to the Synod, with instructions to remand it to the Presbytery. Their report was adopted.

When the action of the Assembly came before the Synod of Onondaga, it was referred to a Special Committee, who brought in the following report and resolution:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the minute of the General Assembly relating to the case of S. Edwards Todd, report:

"That the General Assembly, at the request of Mr. Todd, at its last meeting, revised the proceedings of the Synod of Onondaga, in the matter of a complaint from the Presbytery of Cayuga, and virtually condemned the said Synod, without allowing it a trial in due form, and without allowing it any adequate means of defence.

"The irregularities of the General Assembly were the following, namely:

"1. It was irregular to entertain the case, because it did not come up in the regular order, no notice having been given the Synod, through the Moderator, that it was to go to the Assembly. (See Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § v.)

"2. It was irregular, because the case was not put into the hands of the Clerk of the Assembly before the close of the second day's session. (See Book, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § vii.)

"3. It was irregular to entertain the case, when the complainant did not appear, either in person or by counsel. (See Digest, pp. 212, 214, 215.)

"4. It was irregular for the Assembly to act upon the case on the statements of the Judicial Committee, without hearing the testimony or the record. (See Book, Appendix, Rule 40. Also, Chap. VII., sec. 3, § viii., ix. Also, Chap. VII., sec. 4, § iv., v.)

"The accusations brought against the Synod by the General Assembly are the following:

"1. Irregularity in the prosecution of the case.

"2. Recording a judgment, reversing a decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga, and affirming a decision of the church in Genoa, without assigning any reason whatever.

"3. Failing to comply with a requirement of the Book of Discipline, in not remitting to the Presbytery of Cayuga, for a new trial, the matter in which a decision of said Presbytery had been reversed.

"This accusation is supported by a reference to the Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 2, § i.–vii.

"Your Committee have investigated these accusations, and report that they find each of them unfounded.

*Reprint, p. 242.

"1. That of irregularity.

"The records of the Synod show, that the prosecution of the [474] case in question came before the Synod through the proper Committee; that all the testimony relating to the case was patiently examined; that the original parties were heard; that the members of the Presbytery were also allowed to explain their votes, and that every step prescribed in the Book of Discipline was scrupulously adhered to.

"2. Recording a judgment without giving any reason, etc.

"This accusation your Committee find to be unfounded. The Synod has given a reason for reversing the decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga. It is found in the decision of Synod, in the paragraph marked 'first,' and was read before the General Assembly.

"It was in evidence before the Synod, that, when the question was taken before the Presbytery on the complaint of Mr. Todd, there were seven votes for sustaining, including the vote of the Moderator, and seven for not sustaining. The complaint was therefore lost by one majority, or by a tie, and the statement is copied into the Minute of the General Assembly.

"Moreover, the Synod had at its command and on record reason for affirming the decision of the church in Genoa, which was also additional reason for reversing the decision of the Presbytery of Cayuga. The reason is contained in the testimony before the church of Genoa, on the trial of Mr. Todd, to which the Synod listened, and to which its Minutes refer.

"This testimony the Synod would have brought before the General Assembly, if its Moderator had been notified that a complaint was to be made, in accordance with the requirement of the Book of Discipline.

"3. Failure to comply with the requirement of the Book, etc.

"The Synod is referred, in support of this position of the General Assembly, to Chap. VII., sec 2, § i.–vii.

"But sec. 2, of Chap. VII., relates to References, while the Todd case came before the Synod by complaint. But, even in the paragraphs referred to, a decision and not a remittance of the case is advised; while the section relating to complaints says expressly, (Chap. VII., sec. 4, § v.,) that 'a complaint brings the whole proceedings of the case under the review of the superior judicatory, and may have the effect,' etc., 'of reversing the judgment complained of, and placing matters in the same situation in which they were before the judgment was pronounced.'

"In view of the foregoing statement, the Synod resolves:

"1. That, while affirming its allegiance to the ecclesiastical authority of the General Assembly, the Synod cannot withhold its regret that action so unjust and unconstitutional should have been had in the case referred to.

"2. That, with the foregoing statement of facts in the case, the Synod respectfully refer it for consideration to the next General Assembly.

"3. That the Commissioners to the next General Assembly from the constituting Presbyteries of this Synod be requested to secure, if possible, a reversal of the action referred to. [475]

"The report of the Committee, as thus amended, was then adopted."

2. In view of the whole case, your Committee further find, that the last Assembly seem to have acted without such a knowledge of all the facts of the case, as a regular presentation of the complaint and the Records would have given them; and that, therefore, the case is one which justifies the action of this Assembly in relief of the Synod.

3. Your Committee further find, that the action of the Synod was scrupulously conformed to the requirements of our Book.

They had the right to send the case back to the Presbytery, or to review the whole of it, according to their discretion. It is not for this court to decide which would have been the wiser course. The Synod judge it best to review the whole case, and their discretion is not a matter of review by this body.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend:

That the requisition of the last Assembly on the Synod of Onondaga be rescinded, and that the case be dismissed.

While the Committee come to this conclusion, they feel constrained also to express decidedly their disapproval of the language of the Synod, pronouncing the action of the Assembly "unjust and unconstitutional."

The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee further reported Case No. 2, being the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from the action of the Synod of Albany.

The Committee find the papers in order, and recommend that the case be taken up in the following order:

1. Hear the papers which present the appeal, and the reasons therefor.
2. The action of the lower courts.
3. The statements of the parties in the case.
4. Opinions of the members in the case.

The report was adopted, and

It was made the second order for to-morrow morning to hear and issue the appeal.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommends to each of its Presbyteries the annual appointment of Standing Committees, severally, on Home and Foreign Missions, Education and Publication, whose duties shall consist in a special oversight of these several objects; in the securing, as far as practicable, a collection in behalf of each object in every church; and in reporting annually to the Presbytery the amounts so contributed, as well as other matters of special interest pertaining to each cause.

Resolved, That the Assembly further recommends that the substance of the annual reports of such Standing Committees be embodied in the Presbyterial Narrative to the General Assembly.

A communication was received and read, inviting this Assembly [476] to attend the Ohio State Sabbath-school Convention, to be held to-morrow, May 25th, at Chilicothe, Ohio.

The invitation was respectfully declined.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Mr. Abijah F. Taylor, of the Presbytery of Buffalo.
" Robert Erwin, " Hamilton.
" J. Gilbert Benedict, " Oswego.
" Jacob C. Adams, " Indianapolis.
" Isaac Smith, " North River.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an application from the Synods of Genesee and Geneva, to change the boundaries of these Synods, by sanctioning the transfer of the church of Hornellsville from the Presbytery of Steuben to the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. The action, on the part of the church, of the Presbyteries, and of the Synods, appears to be unanimous, and to be based on sufficient reasons.

The Committee recommended that this application be granted, and the report was adopted.

It was made the first order for Thursday morning to hear reports from the Committees appointed to examine the Synodical Records.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the following

Delegates from Corresponding Bodies addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator:

Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which met last year at Peoria.

Rev. Abel Stevens, from the General Convention of Vermont.

Rev. David Winters, from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.

Written communications were also received from the Rev. C. F. McCauley, the Delegate from the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, and from

Rev. Stephen C. Strong, the Delegate from the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.

The Assembly then resumed the unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry.

The report was accepted, and the resolutions and recommendations therein contained were adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [477]

Wednesday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 6, as follows:

Resolved, That this Assembly highly appreciates the faithful and self-denying labors of its ministers, and those of other Christian denominations, in our national army; that it has confidence in the value of the regimental chaplaincy, and in the motives and fidelity of the great majority of the chaplains. And the Assembly earnestly exhorts all in its churches to give these brethren in the field a place in their sympathies and their prayers.

Also, Overture No. 7, as follows:

Resolved, That the noble devotion, labors, and sacrifices of our patriot soldiers, and sailors call for our deepest gratitude and lasting remembrance; and that we regard it as the high privilege, no less than the imperative duty, of the Church of God, to minister in every possible way to their necessities, both temporal and spiritual.

Resolved, That the Assembly have regarded with deep interest the labors of the United States Christian Commission among the army and navy; that we believe it is an agency well designed to meet the necessities of the work, and that we most cordially commend it to the Christian sympathy and liberality of the churches here represented.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the above resolutions, and their report was adopted.

It was made the first order for Friday morning to consider the report of the Special Committee on the subject of provision for disabled ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances.

The first order of the day not being in readiness, the Assembly proceeded to the second order, being the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from a decision of the Synod of Albany.

The Moderator reminded the Assembly, in due form, of the judicial character which they now assumed.

The sentence appealed from was read.

The reasons for the appeal were read, and also the proceedings of the inferior judicatory.

At this stage, by consent of the representatives of the original parties, the whole matter was referred to a *Committee* consisting of Mr. Samuel H. Perkins, Hon. Charles Noble, and Mr. Edward D. Mansfield. [478]

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 5, as follows:

The Commissioners from the Presbytery of Wilmington have been instructed to ask information of the Assembly on the following points:

1. Who are voters in an election for trustees of a church?
2. Who have power to call a meeting for the election of trustees of a church?
3. Who have power to close and hold possession of a church—the trustees or the session?

The Committee reported:

1. That the questions asked are wholly legal questions, to be determined by the local laws, relating to church property, in the State where the church lies.
2. That, in the absence of any statutory law relating to the mode in which trustees shall proceed, the by-laws of the corporation shall govern the mode of proceeding.
3. That, in the absence of any specific rules of proceedings, the general principle of law, that the trust shall be executed for the sole use of those for whom it is held, shall govern the case.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the discussion on the question of adopting the report,

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper to-morrow evening at a quarter before eight o'clock, agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside and read the opening hymn.
2. Prayer and reading of the Scriptures by Rev. James A. Carnahan.
3. Address and administration of the Bread by Rev. George N. Boardman.
4. Prayer and administration of the Cup by Rev. John Rankin.
5. Address by Rev. George Duffield, Jr.
6. Hymn and Benediction by Rev. Edmund Wright.

And that the following elders be designated to distribute the elements, namely, Messrs. Marcus C. Riggs, Charles Williams, Samuel Favorite, Hon. Charles Noble, Samuel W. Butler, M. D., Bushnell K. Bronson, Hon. Peter Odlin, and David E. Beatty.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [479]

Wednesday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and spent an hour and a half in devotional exercises, in accordance with the previous arrangement to unite with our brethren of the other Assembly in thanksgiving and prayer for the country.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioner as present, and his name was added to the Roll:

Halsey Dunning, Minister, from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the Overture of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, upon the Reunion of the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, propose the following declaration:

1. That this Assembly cordially welcome all signs of increased love and union among those who hold to the fundamental facts and doctrines of the Gospel; and bears its solemn testimony, with self-humiliation, against whatever fosters alienation and genders strife among the disciples of our Lord.

2. That the tendencies of modern society, the condition of Protestant Christianity, the increase of infidelity, the progress of Romanism, and the present and prospective state of our own country, afford powerful arguments against further subdivisions, and in favor of that union and unity of the Church into which it is to grow, and which is to be its consummation; and that we record, with unfeigned gratitude, our profound conviction that the spirit of disunion and of sectarianism is waning, and that the spirit of brotherly kindness and mutual confidence is largely on the increase.

3. That in an especial manner are those churches bound to foster this spirit, who adopt the same standards of faith and order, and whose divisions are local, personal, and incidental, and for whose Reunion there is only needed a wise deference to each other's rights and a higher measure of Christian charity. Adopting the same formulas of faith and form of government, all that is needed is to receive them in the same spirit.

4. That as the churches represented by this Assembly did not inaugurate separation, so, too, they hold to no principles and views, and would impose no terms, inconsistent with a full and cordial Reunion, whenever and wherever the will of the great Head of the Church, as indicated by divine providence, may open the way for us all to meet together again, on the same basis on which of old our fathers stood; and that we should rejoice in such Re[480]union, as a pledge of the future prosperity, and an augury of the accelerated growth of the kingdom of Christ through the length and breadth of our land; and that it is our united and fervent prayer to our common Master, that he would so remove all hindrances as to make a plain path for our feet, where we may walk together, being of one heart and mind, in the ways of the Lord.

5. That, while we do not deem it expedient now to appoint such a Committee as that asked for in the memorial of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, yet, that this expression of our principles and convictions, with our heartfelt Christian salutations, be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at Newark, New Jersey.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to

Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D.,	of the Presbytery of	Cincinnati.
" Tertius S. Clarke, D. D.,	"	Cayuga.
" Samuel D. Smith,	"	Huron.
" James V. A. Woods,	"	Kansas.
" Allen J. Buell,	"	Delaware.
Mr. Orrin S. Penfield,	"	"
" Bernard Fowler,	"	Bloomington.

Mr. William H. Frost, of the Presbytery of Niagara.
" Gilbert E. Collins, " Galena and Belvidere.
" John B. Dwinnell, " Columbus.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly to inquire whether any changes in the Plan of the Church Erection Fund are desirable to add to its efficiency, and, if so, what, presented their report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

The further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was made the third order for to-morrow.

It was made the first order for to-morrow afternoon, to hear the report of the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Susquehanna and Utica respectfully reported, recommending that the Records be approved as far as written; and the reports were adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour of the session was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [481]

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That eighty Presbyteries have paid their apportionments for the Assembly's Fund in full, namely:

Albany, Columbia, Catskill, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Geneva, Chemung, Ithaca, Wellsborough, Lyons, Cayuga, Otsego, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Genesee, Niagara, Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Monroe, Marshall, Kalamazoo, Coldwater, Saginaw, Grand River Valley, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Maumee, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Galena and Belvidere, Chicago, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Des Moines, Keokuk, Iowa City, Dubuque, Chariton, Cedar Valley, Dakota, Minnesota, Winona, St. Louis, Lexington, Northern Missouri, and Kansas.

That nine Presbyteries have paid in full to the Contingent Fund at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, and have paid in addition a part of their apportionment for the Commissioners' Fund, namely:

Utica, Steuben, Onondaga, Tioga, Rochester, Elyria, Pataskala, Saint Joseph, and Logansport.

That four Presbyteries have paid to the Contingent Fund at the rate of seventy-five cents for each minister, namely:

Champlain, Meadville, Washtenaw, and Athens.

That the Presbytery of Troy, having twenty-one ministers, has paid eighteen dollars; and that the Presbytery of Franklin, having sixteen ministers, has paid sixteen dollars and twenty-five cents to the Contingent Fund.

That ten Presbyteries have not contributed anything toward the expenses of the General Assembly, namely:

Oswego, Cortland, Chenango, District of Columbia, Lake Superior, Grand River, San Francisco, Sierra Nevada, San José, and Washoe.

The amount received by the Mileage Committee is		$5486.05
The amount of bills presented to your Committee for mileage and expenses is	$4321.15	
The estimate presented by the Stated Clerk of what is needed from this Fund for the contingent expenses of the Assembly is	1250.00	5571.15
		$85.10

Which shows a deficiency of eighty-five dollars and ten cents, provided the Commissioners are paid in full, which your Committee recommend should be done; and that the Stated Clerk be directed to appeal to the non-paying Presbyteries to make good [482] the deficiency. The amount is small, and of right should be promptly paid by the able Presbyteries which have not contributed.

Your Committee would also recommend that five cents for each communicant be assessed on the Presbyteries for the necessary expenses of the Commissioners, and for the Contingent Fund of the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted, and the Committee were instructed to pay the bills of the Commissioners in full, and the balance to the Stated Clerk for the contingent expenses of the Assembly.

It was resolved that, on account of the greatly increased expense of paper and printing, the price of the printed Minutes be, hereafter, sixty cents per copy, excluding postage.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, being the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records.

The reports of the Committees on the Records of the Synods of Albany, Geneva, Genesee, Onondaga, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Wabash, Illinois, Peoria, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri, were severally presented, recommending that they be approved as far as written, and the reports were adopted.

The following minute was adopted on the recommendation of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Missouri:

In view of the probable fact, that this Synod is the only ecclesiastical body of our Church that has been disturbed in its regular meeting by the aggressions of the unholy Confederate rebellion;

And in view of the certain fact, that the wicked force of treason so far retired as to permit this Synod to return to its appointment, and hold a regular meeting even upon the historic soil of Kansas;

The Committee request that the Moderator direct that a brief thanksgiving be now offered to Almighty God, for the signal favor and blessing that the great Head of the Church hath, by this, shown to our brethren of the Synod of Missouri, and through them to the Church at large.

The Assembly were then led in prayer by Rev. William Atwood.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey reported, recommending that they be approved as far as written, with certain exceptions.

The report was accepted, and put upon the docket.

The committee on the Records of the Synod of Alta California reported, that the Records had not been placed in their hands.

The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Wisconsin reported, that they have been subjected to an increased amount of labor in examining the minutes of this Synod, in consequence of the failure of the Stated Clerk to send up the Records annually to the Assembly, as our Rules require. The minutes of this body [483] have not been brought under the inspection of the Assembly since May, 1860; leaving an accumulation of four years of unexamined and unapproved Records.

There are indications that the Stated Clerk has been delinquent in punctually recording the annual Minutes as taken by the Temporary Clerk. In this way, the Records were probably not in readiness to be sent to the Assembly at the proper time, by the Commissioners annually appointed.

With these exceptions, the Committee recommended that the Records be approved as far as written, in the usual form.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day, being the report of the Standing Committee on Publication, which was accepted and the resolutions appended adopted; it is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom were referred the twelfth annual report of the Permanent Publication Committee, and the tenth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, together with certain other papers, submit the following report:

Your Committee are pleased to find so much evidence to justify the congratulation expressed to the General Assembly in the report of the Permanent Committee; and being the first instance of such good cheer in the history of the cause, the transition deserves special and grateful notice.

It is at length settled, even a very clear finality to-day, that this cause, after so long a time of equivocal existence, is henceforth to be a sure and living factor in the working plans of our Church. Nor this alone; it begins now to have some of the means and inspiration of success; as hitherto this poor offspring, in the group of our Christian enterprises, had but the will to work, and the prophecy of better days to come.

This cause is also more extensively and better known through our Presbyterian public than at any prior day, and can bear to be still better known, as it improves greatly on acquaintance. Though some are rather shy of it yet, giving it but a cold recognition instead of a hearty fellowship, it has nevertheless made many new friends the past year, and has the still deeper confidence of its old friends, who, with their first love never abated for a moment, have watched over it through the weary night, and are thankful to God to see it looking so well in the morning. It is now approaching the day when, by its own actual results, it can justify all the claims which it has ever urged upon the General Assembly and the denomination, as being, in manifold ways, a valuable and indispensable accessory to our growth and power.

It is proof of some advancement, that the catalogue of publications has not only been increased the past year by a considerable number of tracts and bound volumes, but that so many of these are original, and are the product of pens which we delight to [484] honor in our Church, and withal comprise an excellent range of subjects, and hence are an installment of that very literature which the Publication cause aims to supply, for the help of the ministry in its manifold work, for the nurture and admonition of the family, for the Presbyterian education of our Sabbath-schools, for the correction and instruction of the membership in the doctrines and polity of their own Church, and for the wider work of the evangelization of our land. And here, as it is pertinent to the topic, your Committee would repeat and emphasize the invitation extended by the Permanent Committee to the educated mind of the Church, to prepare manuscripts for publication, provided, let it be said, the subject chosen and the method of treating it will make a live book; or, better yet, a hot-shot tract, that will neither hang fire at the start, nor go out after it is discharged.

It is gratifying, also, to notice the special donations which have been made to the Publication Committee for stereotyping tracts and books; and your Committee would cite these as sample instances of what may be done to help the cause, in this unique form of contribution, whether it be by a church or by admirers of the author; as, in either case, whether through love of the man or love of the subject, the tract or the book will be endowed with a long, if not an everlasting life; for if, as John Milton said in his plea for a free press, he who took the life of a good book took the life of immortality itself, so we may say, with no more of hyperbole, that he who furnishes the Committee with the means to stereotype a good publication multiplies immortality, the dead author thus being an ever-living and speaking host. We hope that many a layman may honor the argument by cash.

Likewise your Committee can refer with pleasure to the increased sales of publications, as also to the larger donations of publications, and to the glad acknowledgments of them by pastors, laymen, and honorable women in various parts of the wide field; and to the uniform testimony, which their correspondence gives, as to the need of such publications, by our household of faith, and by those who are strangers to us. This is no new thought, indeed, but such a general and hearty certification of it attests the spiritual economy and profit of our Publication cause. A large percentage of the eldership of our Church, it is very probable, have not a copy of the Confession of Faith and Form of Government, to say nothing of other genuine Presbyterian literature for the advantage of the fathers and the children in Israel. Wherefore, we hail with satisfaction every evidence, and every method, of the circulation of the books and tracts of our Publication House.

Referring now to the Treasurer's report, your Committee discern another sign of progress, inasmuch as the amount contributed to the general purposes of the cause, and the amount received from the sales of publications, exceed those of the previous year over forty per cent. in respect to the sales; while the effort to raise the Endowment Fund of $50,000 has secured nearly [485] $30,000 of the sum. This fund, as fast as it is realized, is appropriated according to the directions of the General Assembly of last year; and thus the reduction of the incumbrance on the Presbyterian House and the transfer of the House and its profits to the Permanent Committee by a declaration of trust are important financial gains to the whole cause. With pleasure your Committee here mention the zealous and profitable service which the Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, has rendered in behalf of the Endowment Fund, and commend him to the sympathy and co-operation of pastors and churches in his future efforts.

The appointment, also, of Committees in several Presbyteries, according to the recommendation of the last General Assembly, to secure annual contributions to the cause from all the churches, is at least a good beginning of systematic support, and will be better still when all the Presbyteries accept the counsel and the plan, which they are hereby besought to do.

In examining the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, which has the tone of encouragement in it, the Standing Committee were reminded of the twofold power of this Board of Trustees, and deem it proper to call the attention of the General Assembly, and of our whole people, to the fact of the corporate authority of this Board to receive and administer any bequests or legacies, which may be made in the interest of our other benevolent institutions, such as Home Missions and Ministerial Education. Those who want their works to follow them after they have ceased from their labors will please take notice, and pastors will please give the notice.

The Permanent Committee on Publication, including of course all the subdivisions of it, among whom the various parts of the work are distributed, and including the laborious Secretary, deserve the cordial thanks of this Assembly for the patience, fidelity, and public spirit with which they have discharged their respective duties.

Passing now from the foregoing commendations of the Publication cause, your Committee would begin their recommendations to this General Assembly, by urging the completion of the Endowment Fund. Year after year the important relations of this cause to the great interests of the Church have been pleaded before the Assembly. As a denomination we have resolved, that this arm of our service shall neither be cut off from the body, nor be allowed to remain a withered, impotent thing. Believing that our dearest interests and enterprises depend, in no small measure, upon the organized power of the press, we have instituted this Publication cause, and have invested funds, hopes, and our very reputation in it, so that now we must go forward. Nothing succeeds so well as success; and this we must have in order to preserve, or rather to redeem, our name from reproach. Delay, divided sympathy, and it might almost be said the want of natural affection for our own household, have hurt our stand[486]ing and our work. We must take these dead flies out of the ointment, else they will vitiate the very atmosphere of our Presbyterianism. No doubt, sectarianism, in spirit and results, is a very unlovely thing; and hence it has never been welcomed among us; but he who will not provide for his own family has even denied the faith, which is worse than the zeal of the bigot to spread it. The trouble in this cause is at headquarters; it is among the staff officers; it is with the ministry. If the leaders will take their columns and go to the front in support of this cause, the struggle will soon be ended. "The people will not contribute." No pastor may rightfully prejudge and censure them in advance of a fair and earnest effort. If the objection were true, it cannot annul his duty as an ambassador. By very virtue of his office, and instructions of the Throne, every minister is appointed an agent to take up collections for the kingdom of his Lord. He is as much bound to preach Christian beneficence, and guide it into the support of worthy objects, as he is bound to preach repentance, faith, love, any Christian grace, or guide sinners who seek Jesus. The right counsel, the apostolic precedent, the excellent way of success, reads thus: "Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also," of liberal giving. If there be any secret place of thunder, as we believe there is, in the press, let the Church give the Publication Committee the means of working the battery, and let the ministry call on the Church that it may furnish the supplies. And now, in order to unify and focalize the sympathies and contributions of all our people in behalf of the Endowment Fund,

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to every congregation in connection with it, which has not already contributed its just proportion of the $50,000, or made arrangements to do so, to take up a collection for this purpose on the fourth Sabbath of June *proximo*.

Resolved, That, in the diversity of judgment among pastors and others, in regard to the proposed Social Hymn-Book, and the consequent embarrassment of the Publication Committee on the subject, it be recommended by the General Assembly that the book be published with four hundred hymns, and with so many and such tunes as the Committee may judge to be in good correspondence with the number and kind of hymns.

Resolved, That Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. George F. Wiswell, and Mr. Frank L. Bodine, whose term of service now expires, be re-elected as members of the Presbyterian Publication Committee for the ensuing three years, with the addition of Mr. Alexander Whilldin, for the same period.

Resolved, That as the Trustees of the Presbyterian House represent that neither in character nor by-laws is it determined what number of Trustees constitute a quorum for the transaction [487] of business, the Assembly decide that five members of the Trustees shall be a quorum for this purpose.

Resolved, That as the term of office of the following Trustees of the Presbyterian House expires during the sessions of the present Assembly, namely, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., the Assembly re-elect these brethren as members of the said Board of Trustees for the ensuing three years.

The further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was made the first order for this afternoon, in place of the report of the Committee on Sabbath-schools and Sabbath Services.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee recommend the observance of the Tercentenary of the death of John Calvin to-morrow evening, agreeably to the following order:

1. The Moderator to preside.
2. Prayer by Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
3. Opening address by the Moderator.
4. Address by Mr. Edward D. Mansfield.
5. Address by Rev. Llewellyn J. Evans, one of the professors of Lane Theological Seminary.
6. Address by Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D.
7. Address by Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D.
8. Benediction by Rev. Samuel M. Sparks.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following persons:

Rev.	Corydon W. Higgins,	of the Presbytery of	Ithaca.
"	Arunah H. Lilly,	"	Lyons.
"	William N. Sayre,	"	North River.
"	William T. Bartle,	"	Kalamazoo.
"	John B. Allen,	"	Cleveland.
"	Samuel S. Thomson,	"	Crawfordsville.
"	John Glass,	"	Cedar Valley.
"	James J. Wilson,	"	Northern Missouri.
Mr.	Edward T. Taylor,	"	Wilmington.
"	Peter C. Vreeland,	"	Washtenaw. [488]
"	William S. Potts,	"	Minnesota.
"	Ebenezer Jenkins,	"	Chicago.

Mr. Charles Williams, of the Presbytery of Galena and Belvidere.
" John N. Gossitt, " Fort Wayne.
" James Snedaker, " Ripley.
" Isaac L'Hommedieu, " Cleveland.
Hon. James Seymour, " Saginaw.
Mr. William C. Hayne, " Kalamazoo.
" Rufus L. Perkins, " Erie.
" James Leighton, " Montrose.
" Andrew Thompson, M. D., " Genesee.
Hon. James M. Monroe, " Onondaga.
Mr. Theron Van Auken, " Geneva.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Publication Committee to revise the "Church Psalmist," with a view to the restoration of the original phraseology, where deemed advisable.

The Assembly proceeded to take up the first order of the day, being the further consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, to whom were referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions, and other papers, respectfully submit the following report:

In reviewing the report of the Permanent Committee, which has been presented to the Assembly, we find many occasions for encouragement and devout thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church.

The diversity of sentiment and feeling that for many years disturbed our counsels, in relation to the Home Missionary work, has, we trust, wholly passed away. Since the organization of our Permanent Committee for the prosecution of this work, the number of our Home Missionaries has been largely increased. Thirty-nine have been added to the list within the last year, being a little more than fifteen per cent. of the number for the preceding year. The receipts to the treasury within the last year have increased more than sixty-five per cent., as compared with the receipts of the foregoing year, and are believed to exceed by more than one hundred per cent. the annual contributions of our churches to the American Home Missionary Society, before the organization of the Committee. At the same time, it has not been found necessary to add to the average amount of appropriations for the support of the several missionaries.

The importance and claims of the work set before us are pressed upon us with increasing urgency as time advances. The startling events of Divine Providence, that are bursting asunder the bonds of despotism in this land, afford fresh prophecies of a day, not far [489] in the future, when the way of the Lord will be prepared among our countrymen as never before. Let the bloody war in which we are now involved be succeeded by a stable peace, and how soon will hundreds of thousands, or even millions, be added to our unevangelized population from the Old World! And will not the Home Missionary field, accessible to our laborers, be almost doubled in point of territorial extent, calling us to perform our share in the work of evangelizing seven or eight millions of people, of different colors, who have been hitherto separated from us by impassable barriers?

The opening of new and immensely wide territories in the distant West and North-west, and the building up of new places along our constantly multiplying lines of railroad throughout the whole West, are enlarging the theatre for our domestic missionary enterprise beyond all precedent. And our denomination occupies the proper middle ground, alike in respect to doctrine, ecclesiastical order, and geographical position, to qualify it to perform a peculiar part in the evangelization of the needy millions of our countrymen, and the planting of efficacious religious institutions all over the broad land.

We have thus a weight of responsibility devolved upon us in regard to the regeneration and salvation of our beloved country, such as rests upon no other Christian body of like numbers and resources.

The great practical question, therefore, is: How shall we fitly meet this momentous responsibility? It is not enough to answer this question by the general statement that we must address ourselves to the enterprise before us with a comprehensive wisdom, and in the self-sacrificing spirit of our Master. We must prosecute the work with systematic diligence, and by the adoption and execution of such specific measures as the nature and circumstances of the case may seem to require. It will not be deemed unsuitable to submit, in this connection, a few particular suggestions, which we regard as entitled to the attention and serious consideration of the Permanent Committee, and of the churches under the care of this Assembly.

In relation to the newer parts of our wide field, we must regard it as highly important and necessary that more labor should be expended in the line of exploration, gathering churches, looking after the interests of feeble congregations that may be in perilous circumstances, and securing regular and generous contributions to the funds of the Committee. It seems impracticable, both from the lack of men and means, to sustain Presbyterial missionaries to any great extent at present. But may not synodical missionaries be wisely employed, at least in new sections of the country, where the fields of the district secretaries extend over several States or Territories? Without some such arrangement, we fear the interests of the cause will seriously suffer, in many of the finest portions of our missionary field.

We cannot doubt, also, that the time has come when our Com[490]mittee should send missionaries to such parts of the Southern and South-western States as have been redeemed from the power of the rebellion. The harvests are already beginning to ripen for the sickle, among both the white and the colored people that have been brought within the lines of our armies, where communities are assuming a somewhat settled form; and there can be no doubt, that many friends of the Home Missionary cause in our churches would esteem it a privilege, to be allowed to make special contributions for the aid of the work in this department. Shall we not closely follow the providence of God in this direction? Shall we not be among the pioneers in this part of the missionary field, which God is so wonderfully preparing before us, while the earth is still red with the blood of our brothers and sons? Our Government has extended to us, with other leading Christian denominations of the country, a special invitation to enter upon this work without delay, by the issue of an order from the War Department for our protection and assistance on this behalf. Let not the civil government outrun the Church in point of zeal for the evangelization of the freedmen and the recovered population of the South.

It may seem to be traveling out of the province assigned to your Committee, but we cannot forbear calling attention anew, in this connection, to our need, as a Church, of more young and vigorous laborers, to enter and occupy the vast regions of the West and South.

We cannot hope to accomplish this work to any great extent by enlisting in it men who have already borne the burden and heat of the day, and who are encumbered by the care of large families. The wheels of our enterprise must move slowly, until the number of our younger ministers who shall be willing to spend and be spent for Christ shall be largely increased. As often, therefore, as we look abroad upon the home field, and inquire how we are to do our part in the gathering of its whitening harvests, we seem to hear the Master saying to us, as he did to his disciples eighteen hundred years ago: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

We trust our churches will not forget to help our self-denying workers in the new settlements, in this time of high prices and extraordinary expenses of living, by sending to them, through the proper channels, missionary boxes well filled, not with worn-out clothing, but with articles of substantial value, for individual and family use.

We are called, in the judgment of your Committee, to a highly important duty, in respect to the invigoration, development, and consecration of our benevolence in the direction of Home Missions. A wider diffusion of definite information on this subject is demanded, to stir up and keep alive the zeal of our people. It is known that many members of our churches are to this day ignorant of the change in our method of conducting the Home Missionary work, and are therefore contributing annually to the treasury of a society that makes no return for the benefit of our denomination. [491] And comparatively few of our people have any definite knowledge in regard to the location, labors, and trials of our missionaries. We therefore hail with unfeigned satisfaction the proposition to issue a monthly publication, that shall spread before our churches our whole work of benevolence and evangelization; hoping to see it carried into effect without unnecessary delay. Will not all our pastors and stated supplies earnestly co-operate in the effort to instruct our congregations fully in relation to this cause, both by introducing among them such publications as the *Monthly Periodical* and the *Presbyterian Almanac*, besides the excellent weekly papers of our Church, and by frequent expositions of the subject from the pulpit?

Permit us to suggest, in this connection, that it seems to us important that the Permanent Committee should take effectual measures to obtain statistical reports from all our Home Missionaries at least once each year.

We would recommend that special pains be taken to call the attention of the benevolent members of our churches, who ought to make bequests for the furtherance of this cause, to the necessity of looking well to the direction of their legacies, if they would have their real wishes carried into effect. Many thousands of dollars, in the form of legacies from members of our churches, are now used for the support of ministers and churches of another denomination. If our experience in this regard has been sore, let it teach us the more effectually.

The time has arrived when our Church should come up to a higher standard of giving, especially for the promotion of this great work of saving our own country. We ought to raise, for the Home Missionary Committee, at least $150,000 within the next ecclesiastical year.

A vigorous effort should be made by our Presbyteries and pastors to systematize the work of making collections for this object, that every member of our churches may have a part in the blessedness of helping a cause so noble and far-reaching in its results. We have, on the rolls of our churches, more than a hundred and forty thousand names. If we deduct fifteen thousand from this number for non-residents, we shall still have left a membership of more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand; and a contribution from this number, averaging only one dollar and twenty cents per member, would place in the Committee's treasury $150,000.

Let the abler members of our churches enlarge their benevolence on this behalf with a generous spirit, and let all our people be induced to bear even a small part in this work, and our treasury will be filled, and God be greatly glorified.

In accordance with the suggestion and request of the Permanent Committee, in regard to the location of members of that Committee, we recommend that the fourteenth of the "Resolutions on the Home Missionary Work," adopted by the General Assembly of 1861, (Minutes, p. 469,) be so altered as to read as follows: [492]

"*Resolved*, That the members of the Committee be located in and about New York or Philadelphia."

We also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the payment of $100 into the treasury, at one time, on behalf of any person, shall constitute that person an honorary member of the Committee; and the payment of $30, in like manner, shall constitute any person a corresponding member of the Committee.

We nominate. to fill the vacancies in the Permanent Committee, Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Messrs. Joseph F. Joy and James B. Pinneo.

The Committee to whom was referred the special report of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions, on the subject of a Periodical, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the special report of the Presbyterian Committee on Home Missions, on the subject of a Periodical, report:

That such a publication is greatly needed, and widely called for. A publication ably edited, and in full sympathy with the spirit of the Gospel in its adaptation to the times in which we live, seems necessary, to set before all our people the mutual relations and claims of the various schemes, by which our Church seeks to do her own work of giving the Gospel to a lost world, and building up God's people through an educated ministry, missions at home and abroad, permanent places of worship, and the press. The claims of the Master upon us as an evangelistic Church, and the means devised by the Assembly to meet those claims, must be set before our Church frequently and perseveringly to insure their intelligent and liberal co-operation.

To this end the Committee recommend the Assembly to direct the Publication Committee to establish, as soon as possible, a monthly periodical of not less than twenty-four octavo pages, under the general supervison of the editor of that Committee; such publication to be the organ of the General Assembly, through its various Committees, for furthering the ends for which they were instituted.

Leaving the details to the various Committees in conference, we would recommend, generally, that the periodical contain departments specially devoted to Education, Home and Foreign Missions, and Publication; each department to be under the control of the secretary of the Committee to which it pertains.

The profits or losses of the publication shall be shared by the respective Committees in such ratio as may be agreed upon, on the general principle of their respective use of the magazine.

The Committee recommend that the price be placed as low as possible, and would suggest fifty cents per annum, rigidly in advance. [493]

Also, that the Assembly urge upon all our ministers and elders to take such measures as shall give it a very wide circulation in their respective congregations, so as to secure, as far as possible, the general intelligence and hearty co-operation of all our people in the efforts of our Church to evangelize the world.

The Committee appointed to audit the annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly reported that they had examined it, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommended that it be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The report was adopted.

The Committee further reported the following minute, which was adopted:

Mr. Anthony P. Halsey served for twelve years as Treasurer of the General Assembly, for several years as Treasurer of the Church Erection Fund, and for many years as Treasurer of the Union Theological Seminary, to whose interests he was greatly devoted. Distinguished as a financier, he was also distinguished as a genuine Christian. He was an office-bearer of the Church, and a man of a pure, meek, and humble spirit. In memory of his services and his Christian character, the General Assembly puts this minute upon its records.

The Committee also recommended Mr. William A. Booth, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, for Treasurer of the General Assembly, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the decease of Mr. Halsey, and their recommendation was adopted.

The report of the Committee on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services was postponed, and made the second order for to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to draw up a minute on the Tercentenary of Calvin's decease, presented the following report:

The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ owes it to itself and its divine Master to pay a fitting tribute to the memory of the great theologians and reformers who, endued with grace from on high and illumined by the study of the Scriptures, have reformed the faith and restored the order of the Gospel.

This Assembly, therefore, gratefully welcomes this Tercentenary of the decease of John Calvin, falling as it does within the period of its regular sessions, (May 27th,) as a suitable occasion for expressing our reverence for the character, and recognition of the influence, of the great theologian and chief organizing spirit of the Reformation of the sixteenth century by which Christianity was revived and saved. We honor him not alone for the comprehensiveness and penetration of his intellect, the steadfastness of his will, and the multitude of his labors, but also, and first of all, because in life and death he honored our Lord. His enemies were the enemies of the Reformation; his cause was the cause of God.

Among all the reformers John Calvin stands pre-eminent for the [494] variety of his personal endowments and the extent of his historic influence. No one more profoundly studied the Holy Scriptures, and his commentaries are models of exact interpretation, seizing the spiritual sense and the logical connection of the Word of God. His "Institutes," in their first form the unmatched product of a youth of twenty-five years of age, so systematized the doctrinal positions of the Reformation, that even Roman Catholic writers have called it "the Koran, or rather the Talmud, of heresy." He revived the Presbyterian system of church order, and, in the office of ruling elders, gave it such a popular and representative character, that it made the Church strong, not only against the attacks of Romanism, but also against the encroachments of the State. From the days of the apostles no such ecclesiastical discipline had been known, as that by which he transformed the city of Geneva into a Christian republic, for two centuries the home of sacred learning and the citadel of orthodoxy. His system penetrated all the Reformed countries, and their wisest men learned from his lips forms of sound words and rules of holy living. He organized the Church of France; planned the first foreign mission of the Protestant Church; trained many of the early English and Scotch Reformers; exercised "the cure of souls" throughout Europe, and matured a system which has most deeply penetrated the countries that have led the way, in the thorough application of Christianity to all the relations of human life and human society. Its reforming power did not cease with the age of the Reformation. Our Puritan and Presbyterian ancestors derived from it, in a large degree, those principles which made them strong in contending for civil and religious freedom. Our early churches confessed the Reformed faith. Calvinism was resuscitated on this continent in the theology of Edwards, when it was dying out on the continent of Europe. The history of the Church of Christ since Calvin lived is the best vindication of his principles and eulogy of his character. His influence has so penetrated this land, that we are peculiarly bound to cherish the memory of the great Reformer of Geneva.

As an Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, we cordially celebrate this Tercentenary, in the hope and with the prayer that it may help to revive among us that reverence for God's holy truth, that sublime and self-sacrificing devotion to duty, that earnest opposition to whatever opposes the faith and order of the Gospel, that commingling of the highest Christian faith with the purest Christian life, that zeal for the propagation of apostolic piety, and that constant and earnest effort for the union of the various branches of the one Reformed faith, by which such lustre is thrown, brighter and clearer as time recedes, around the memory and the example of John Calvin.

We trust that this anniversary may serve to draw nearer together the various branches of our Reformed Church in this and other lands; and that the use of our common and time-honored historical name may be revived, that we may thus feel more fully the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

We exhort our ministers and elders, and the other members of [495] our churches, to a renewed study of the life of this Christian reformer; and we also commend to their liberal patronage the project for the erection of a Hall of the Reformation, in the city of Geneva, as a memorial of this tercentenary celebration.

We further propose that this Assembly, under the presidency of its Moderator, unite in the commemorative exercises to be held in this city on the evening of the twenty-seventh of this month.

It is also hereby ordered that a copy of this minute be transmitted to the Committee on the Memorial Fund in the city of Geneva.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the discussion of the question on the adoption of the report,

The Assembly adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, with a number of Christians who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the ordinance.

After the service, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Friday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed its unfinished business, when the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Erection, to whom were referred the tenth annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and also the report of the Special Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to consider the desirableness of any changes in the plan of administering the Fund, respectfully report:

The statement submitted by the Trustees respects the appropriations of the Fund for the past year, and its condition at the year's close.

Your Committee deem it only just to observe, at the outset, that this statement furnishes such abundant evidence of assiduous fideli[496]ty in the care and administration of this responsible trust, as calls for a renewed grateful recognition by this General Assembly of the services of its Trustees.

In looking at the amount of appropriations made during the year, (about $3400,) the question instantly occurs, Why so small a proportion of the large sum yet unappropriated has been put to actual use? Fully and fairly do the Trustees answer this inquiry by reference to the facts: First, that the Fund is assigned in specific proportions to the respective Synods; and next, that special causes, obvious to all, growing necessarily out of the state of the country, have placed a temporary check upon the work of church-building. These facts, it is believed, are sufficient to sustain the expressed conviction of the Trustees, that it is due to no deficiency in the principles or details of the Plan, that a large amount of the Fund has not been used.

As respects the present condition of the Fund, while commending generally the careful and judicious action of the Trustees to which its safety and prosperity are so largely owing, your Committee would refer specifically to a single item in their report, as demanding the serious attention of the General Assembly. It is the amount of instalments past due and unpaid, of which there is now outstanding the sum of $22,457.67. It needs no demonstration, that, to maintain the integrity of the Fund—even more than this, to avert its utter exhaustion—it is indispensable that these instalments be promptly met by the indebted churches. For the aid and partial relief of the Trustees in their delicate work of urgency in this matter, your Committee suggest that this General Assembly recommend to the Synods by whose churches this amount is owing, that they urge upon these churches the importance of using every exertion to meet promptly each instalment as it falls due, according to the provisions of the Plan.

Concerning the matter of the apportionment of the Fund among the respective Synods, which, according to the Plan, is to be determined every year by the General Assembly, your Committee recommend that the last year's apportionment remain unchanged for the ensuing year.

Turning next to the carefully prepared report of the Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, your Committee find clear, full, and accurate statements respecting the history of the Church Erection Fund, the circumstances in which it originated, its leading design and objects, the principles embodied in its plan of administration, and the benefits which have already accrued from its actual work, in the securing of a large amount of church property, in part by insuring the perfection of previously defective titles, but chiefly by stimulating the energies of feeble congregations to do for themselves. In addition to these facts, the report in question enters fully into the discussion of various changes which have been proposed to the Plan itself.

In the general reasonings and conclusions of the Special Committee pertaining to this matter of change in the Plan, your Com[497]mittee are happy to express their entire concurrence, though with respect to some of the particular questions discussed in the report, no judgment could be formed in the limited time allowed them for examination.

Your Committee feel it to be greatly desirable, that information respecting much of the subject-matter contained in this report be furnished to the churches; and therefore recommend, that the report of the Special Committee be referred to the Trustees of the Fund, with direction to publish so much thereof, and with such additions thereto, as their mature experience and consideration may deem to be useful.

Your Committee nominate Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., and Messrs. William E. Dodge and Walter S. Griffith for re-election to the places made vacant by the expiration of their term; and the Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and the Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., for election to fill vacancies in the class whose term of office will expire in June, 1866.

The following resolution, presented by the Standing Committee on Church Erection, was referred to the consideration of the next General Assembly, namely:

Resolved, That Article XIV. of the Plan of Church Erection be so altered as to read, in the second paragraph, instead of "$500," $750, and instead of "$200," $300.

It was made the first order for this afternoon to elect Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The order of the day was taken up, and the report of the Committee on the subject of Provision for Disabled Ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances was adopted. It is as follows:

The Committee on the subject of Provision for Disabled Ministers and the families of deceased ministers in indigent circumstances, respectfully report:

That, in discharging the duty assigned them, they have given a careful examination to the whole subject, as one which deeply involves the honor and prosperity of the Presbyterian Church, and which, therefore, earnestly calls for immediate attention and effective regard.

From actual investigation it appears that every other branch of the Church of Christ, either in its organic capacity or through its subordinate ecclesiastical bodies, has adopted and carried into effect some measures for the relief of its disabled ministers and their families; while it must be acknowledged that we have thus far failed to initiate any effort to make suitable provision in behalf of this suffering class.

The Committee, believing that its appointment indicates a disposition on the part of the Church to remove the reproach which has justly attached to its past inaction, beg leave to submit, First, and succinctly, certain considerations of Christian duty and church policy, upon which is based the obligation of the Church to pro[498]vide for her disabled servants; and next, more fully to state the several plans by which this duty has been proposed to be accomplished, with a commendation to immediate adoption by this General Assembly of that method which seems, in the judgment of your Committee, best adapted to accomplish the desired object.

I. The grounds, upon which the obligation of the Church rests, in this matter are simple, clear, and positive. For the least and lowest consideration, as a portion of Christ's poor, as among the highest class of his needy ones, characterized as such with a sublime emphasis of truth, the claim of Christ's ministers to the support of Christ's people is undeniably foremost. If the law of Christ, "Do good unto all men," imposes an obligation on his people to help the unfortunate, the improvident, and even the vicious, without the pale of the Church, by the same law are they required especially to aid those that are of the household of faith. And if the members of that household, surely, also, they that have been solemnly set apart and received as its spiritual heads, are included in the obligation of that law.

A higher and more positive consideration is suggested by the divine ordination, "that they who preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The priests of the temple were consecrated and supported for life, not merely during their term of active service. So Christ's ministers are self-consecrated to the work of the Church for life. All their preparations are for that work, and that alone. In the act of consecration, followed by the life of self-devotion, they give themselves and theirs in solemn compact to the Church. And, as every compact has two parties with corresponding obligations, the Church on her part tacitly agrees to accept their service, to receive and keep them not only through their active ministry, but for life. As the employees of the Church, laborers fitted for her work and nothing beside, self-consecrated and accepted for life, debarred by their ordination vows from other occupations, their support is assured by the Church for life. If there be an obligation resting upon the State honorably to retire and provide for its disabled life-servants, and to extend such provision to their families, equally imperative is the duty of the Church to do the same for her dependent ministers and their families. No Christian State fails to meet this obligation in some measure. No branch of Christ's spiritual kingdom should occupy a less honorable position.

These considerations plainly indicate ministerial provision to the end of life, by the Church of Christ, to be the just claim of Christ's servants, and the duty of his people. Be it noted and kept distinctly in view, that it is a claim of the one, and a duty of the other; not a charity received by one and dispensed by the other. It might be added that a just policy demands of the Church a cordial interest in and faithful discharge of this duty. The Church needs men. Men, and especially young, inexperienced, and partially sanctified men, need, at least, the ordinary inducements in reference to future provision. If they give themselves to this [499] work, and so cut themselves off from all other means of securing sustenance in the future, they ought to feel and know that they and theirs will not be left to penury and its consequent suffering.

II. As the second and main branch of their report, the Committee next refer to the plans by which this duty of the Church has been proposed to be accomplished. From actual investigation it is found that only three plans have been seriously considered, or attempted to be carried into execution, by other branches of the Church of Christ.

1st. The use of the principle of life insurance.

2d. The raising, by immediate and direct appeal to the churches, of a permanent fund, the interest on which shall suffice to meet the wants of those for whom provision is intended.

3d. Annual contributions by all the churches, to constitute a common fund, to be disbursed upon equal principles, under judicious rules.

1. The Committee would remark, with respect to the first of these plans, the annual investment of premiums in behalf of individual ministers, either in an association created by a particular denomination, or in existing life insurance companies, that only a single denomination has adopted and attempted to use the principle of life insurance. For nearly thirty years the Reformed Dutch Church have had an association based upon this principle within their bounds. As that plan is now undergoing a radical revision

by the body, it may not be improper to state, that, as clearly shown by its history, it has utterly failed. The failure is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the fund yielded for distribution among its own annuitants only $104 the year last reported. But it needs no illustration to show that those who most need provision cannot be reached; the wants of a great majority, at least, of this class, cannot be met by any practicable use of the principle of life insurance. That principle is of necessity specific in its application, local and limited in its benefits. The contributions must be made in behalf of individuals. There is no adjustment possible whereby the principle can be universally applied, and the avails of general collections distributed according to exigencies actually arising in the changing circumstances of our widely scattered ministry.

2. The second plan proposed is that of a permanent fund, to be raised by immediate and direct appeal to the churches; a fund of sufficient amount to meet, by its accruing interest, the wants of those for whom provision is intended. Concerning this scheme, which has had many and earnest advocates, the Committee in this place would simply refer to the following facts, leaving the more positive objections to its adoption to be mentioned in connection with the third and only remaining plan.

It is a fact, and an argument of no inconsiderable weight, that the other great branch of our Presbyterian body, after a most thorough examination and discussion, protracted through many General Assemblies, has decisively rejected this plan. It is another [500] fact and argument, that but one denomination of the American Church—the Methodist Episcopal body—has attempted to supply the wants of its disabled ministers through a permanent fund, and the effort has come very far short of the accomplishment of the object. Their main reliance for this supply is now, as it always has been, upon the annual collections in their churches. The other fact and, it is believed, argument too, though of a peculiar character, is found in our own past experience in the gathering of permanent funds, in the history and the actual raising of our Church Erection and Publication endowments. This history, it is believed, gives no encouragement to the most enthusiastic advocate of a fund for the object under consideration. It fails to suggest even a speculative faith in the practicability of realizing, within any definite term of years, a fund of two, three, or four hundred thousand dollars, for an object so intrinsically worthy and desirable as this. It might be added, as a serious objection to the existence of such fund, if it could be gathered, that it would lock up and leave to stagnate a large amount of money. Unlike the Church Erection and Publication Funds, the bulk of which is kept in active use, this would lie still, merely earning its own small interest, itself exposed to danger or loss, as well as imposing very grave responsibilities upon those charged with its management.

3. The remaining plan is that of annual collections in all the churches, to constitute a common fund, to be disbursed upon equal principles, under judicious rules.

Your Committee wish to be understood as strongly commending this plan, with the simple addition of a standing request for special contributions and legacies, in order to the gradual formation of a small fund to meet exigencies arising from general or local causes, connected with the financial condition of the country. They favor the immediate adoption, by the Assembly, of the plan as thus stated, and beg leave to present the following as the principal reasons to be assigned for its adoption:

As respects the distinction between a general and local (for example, a presbyterial or synodical) fund, it is evident that the former alone can secure adequate and equal provision for all. A general fund is necessary to equalize the burden upon the Church. by bringing in her wealthier portions to supplement the contributions of the poorer. It is essential too, since, practically, the larger number of those needing assistance are found in the feebler sections of the Church. Furthermore, it is in accordance with the generic order of Christ, that the strong should support the weak; and with the Apostle's specific direction to the wealthy Church of Corinth, "that their abundance should supply the want of others, that there might be equality."

In the next place, comparing the plan of annual collections with that of a permanent fund, it is to be observed, that the former, that is, the collection of a few thousand dollars, year by year. could not and would not interfere with the demands of the great charities now incorporated into the organic working of our Church; [501] while the raising of a permanent fund would, for the years spent in its slow accumulation, act with a real and serious detriment to these leading interests of our body. Further, as a consideration directly bearing upon the comparative value of the two plans, it is undeniably just that every generation should bear its own burdens and meet its own obligations. It is unjust to impose upon the State and the Church of the present-generation the burdens and claims which belong to a future generation. It were as just, ay, and as wise, to exact from the citizens now constituting this State or this nation, the millions or thousands of millions necessary to support governmental and other institutions for a hundred years to come; it were as just and wise to ask of the existing generation of Christians the means of sustaining the ministry, and carrying on the operations of the Church for the entire future of her history; or, to narrow the range and sharpen the point of the analogy, it were as just and wise to put upon the present generation of Christian and benevolent men the maintenance, for an indefinite period in the future, of all other classes of Christ's poor, as to require or to do it in behalf of this particular class. Manifestly the simplest justice exacts a similar obligation in this last as in all the preceding particulars. Manifestly each generation of citizens is bound to support its own institutions of State; each generation of Christians is bound to sustain its own Church institutions and servants; to minister to the wants alike of its active and its disabled ministry. And not justice merely, but the highest utility opposes the plan of endowment, while it imperatively calls for that of annual collections in behalf of the class in question. The Church of Christ needs the frequent repeated appeal in behalf of Christ's poor, as one of the most effective means of developing a practical Christlike spirit. This, it will be admitted, is the object of the divine arrangement, that we should have the poor always with us. Herein is furnished the most lofty and persuasive of motives, the most powerful and healthful of all the stimulants to a Christlike sympathy and beneficence. The very appeal, and much more the act of response, is adapted to waken, to exercise, and expand the kindliest, best feelings in the Christian's heart. Hence, in this appeal and response in behalf of Christ's poor, the Church finds alike a duty, a privilege, and a benefit. If this be so with regard to the poor of other classes; if duty, privilege, and spiritual advantage demand a frequent appeal in their behalf, much more with reference to this highest class, Christ's disabled, dependent, suffering ministers—those faithful ones who have toiled for Christ and souls while they could, whose toils have precluded their laying up this world's goods in provision for the time of age or infirmity.

The last and most convincing consideration, in favor of the plan of annual collections, is its uniform success where it has had a trial. The actual experience of other Churches conclusively indicates this plan to be the most practicable and efficient in its working, and in all its effects, both upon the ministry and Church, productive of the best, most useful ends. The Moravian Brethren, [502] the Methodist, and Protestant Episcopal Churches, have all along adopted it, and report it as working well. The other branch of our own Church having, after ten years of discussion, decisively adopted it, (with the addition of the request for special donations and legacies,) report that the plan produces yearly an amount in excess of the demand. The Secretary in charge of this interest reports, to the Assembly now in session at Newark, N. J., the disbursement of about $14,000, and a surplus of nearly $10,000 in the treasury, as the history of the plan for the year just closed.

Sustained by these considerations and facts, your Committee confidently commend the adoption, by the Assembly, of the plan of annual collections in all its churches, together with a standing request for special contributions and legacies toward the creation of a small permanent fund, the principal of which, as well as interest, may be drawn upon to meet unanticipated exigencies.

If this plan be adopted by the Assembly, as it is important that the churches have an intelligent apprehension of the amount requisite for its successful initiation, the Committee venture to name the sum of $10,000 as that which this last but not least worthy claimant upon their benefaction should receive during the ensuing year.

As respects the agency and method by which the fund so gathered shall be disbursed, the Committee recommend, in outline simply, that it be intrusted to the care and control of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to be by them disbursed, through a secretary or agent to be appointed for the purpose, upon the recommendation of the several Presbyteries within whose bounds its deserving claimants may reside; and that the principles and rules of distribution be left to the considerate judgment of the brethren composing the Board.

In conclusion, the Committee submit the following resolutions for the adoption of this General Assembly:

Resolved, 1. That a Fund, to be called "The Ministerial Relief Fund," for the relief of disabled ministers of good and regular standing, in connection with this body, and the families of ministers who have deceased while in our connection, be constituted, to be supplied by annual collections in all our churches, donations and legacies.

Resolved, 2. That in order to constitute and maintain such Fund, it is hereby enjoined upon all our Presbyteries to take such action as shall secure from every church an annual contribution thereto.

Resolved, 3. That this Fund be intrusted to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to be by them disbursed upon the recommendation of Presbyteries, upon such principles and rules of distribution as they shall deem most equal and beneficial.

Resolved, 4. That for the special oversight and care of the interest thus committed to them, the Trustees are authorized to appoint a secretary, prescribe his duties, and determine his salary.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which [503] was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The following resolutions were also presented by the Committee on the Narrative, and adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries be requested, in preparing their annual Narratives for the Assembly, to embody in them such statistics as will show the number of their actual membership, and the amounts which they have contributed for the removal of church debts, or for the erection of new houses of worship; also that they be requested to state what they are doing for the children of the church in addition to the ordinary Sabbath-school instructions.

Resolved, 2. That each year the names of the Presbyteries, which neglect to send to the Assembly a Narrative of the State of Religion within their bounds, be designated in the report of the Assembly's Committee on the Narrative.

The Committee to whom was referred, by the last Assembly, an Overture from Mr. Joseph M. Wilson on the subject of Manses, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to report upon an Overture of Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, proposing that inquiries should be made in respect to manses or parsonages, and to whom also was referred the subject of pastoral libraries, beg leave to state, that in consequence of the removal of the Chairman, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., to another field of labor, no meeting of the Committee has been held. The subject, however, is so important, that it is presumed the Assembly will desire to keep before the churches, under one form or another, the desirableness of providing comfortable accommodations and literary help for their pastors, and will willingly further any judicious measure looking to this end.

Mr. Wilson now proposes, through one of the Committee, to supply, at his own expense, the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, with as large a number of copies of a letter of inquiries, in respect to the matters proposed, as there are churches within the bounds of all our Presbyteries; with the understanding, that the Stated Clerks will attend to their distribution among the churches; and he himself will arrange and classify the same in time to be presented to the next General Assembly.

By directing the answer to be forwarded directly to a Committee appointed for that purpose, who could place them in the hands of Mr. Wilson, to be arranged and classified, it is believed that the statistical zeal and ability of Mr. Wilson, under the general direction of the Committee, could be advantageously employed by the Assembly, and his generous offer be accepted.

The Committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Whereas, The importance of providing manses or parsonages for the comfortable accommodation of our ministers and their [504] families, and also of establishing and enlarging pastoral libraries, is worthy of serious consideration, and never more so than at present; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That Rev. George E. Day, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, and Messrs. Edward D. Mansfield and Charles A. Davison, be appointed a *Committee* to collect information, by appropriate inquiries, in respect to existing *Parsonages and Pastoral Libraries* in connection with our churches, to report to the next General Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That blank forms containing these inquiries be sent to the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, and that they be requested to attend to their distribution among the churches.

Resolved, 3. That the ministers, elders, deacons, and members of the churches under the care of the General Assembly be earnestly requested to make early and full replies to these questions, adding any information, or making any suggestions, which may tend to awaken an interest in behalf of manses or parsonages and pastoral libraries.

The Committee to whom were referred the report of the Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, on the subject of Sabbath-schools and Sabbath services, and the Overture from the Synod of Michigan on the same subject, presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the question of its adoption,

The Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 27th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee to whom was referred the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from a decision of the Synod of Albany presented the following report, which was adopted as the decision of this Assembly, namely:

The Committee to whom was referred the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill from the decision of the Synod of Albany, at their stated meeting at Catskill, in her case, respectfully report:

That after examining the documents presented, and hearing the statements of the parties, by themselves or counsel, your Committee are satisfied that substantial justice has been done in their case.

The alleged irregularities in the lower judicatories, which are complained of, are of a technical character, or caused by the course pursued by the appellant or her agents. She could, at any time, have arrested the proceedings, and prevented a conviction of contumacy, by submitting to the authority of her session, and answering their citations; and can now, at any moment, reverse the [505] sentence and be restored, in the manner provided by the tenth article of the fourth chapter of our Book of Discipline.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the appeal of Mrs. Maria Hill be not sustained.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies, and the propriety of discontinuing the custom of paying the Delegates from this body, presented their report, which, after being amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies report as follows:

1. We recommend that, after the present year, our correspondence be closed with ecclesiastical bodies that are in correspondence with Synods in our connection, covering the same ground with them, and that such bodies be duly informed by our Delegates of this change and of the reasons for it.

2. Inasmuch as we have entered into correspondence with the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, we recommend that our Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States be instructed to confer with that body, in regard to the expediency of discontinuing the correspondence between us and them.

It was resolved that the Permanent Committee on Publication be authorized to give special certificates, of two classes, to those who contribute to its funds one hundred dollars and thirty dollars respectively.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Foreign Bodies made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to meet next year at Pittsburgh, Pa.*—Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., and Mr. Horace Stillman, both of the Presbytery of Buffalo, principals; and Rev. George Duffield, D. D., of the Presbytery of Detroit, and Hon. Peter Odlin, of the Presbytery of Dayton, alternates.

2. *To the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., of the Presbytery of Salem, principal; and Rev. George E. Day, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

3. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in*

North America—Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal; and Rev. R. Russell Booth, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

4. *To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. George W. Warner, of the Presbytery of Cayuga, principal; and Rev. Edwin S. Wright, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, alternate.

5. *To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. S. Granby Spees, D. D., of the Pres[506]bytery of Dayton, principal; and Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

6. *To the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal; and Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, alternate.

7. *To the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

8. *To the General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Daniel Rice, of the Presbytery of Logansport, principal; and Rev. Philander Barbour, of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.

9. *To the General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cayuga, principal; and Rev. Samuel M. Wood, of the Presbytery of Troy, alternate.

10. *To the General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Chester Fitch, of the Presbytery of Utica, principal; and Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

11. *To the General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.

12. *To the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Edmund F. Waldo, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee, principal; and Rev. Charles J. Hutchins, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate.

13. *To the Union of the Evangelical Churches in France*—Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business, being the consideration of the report of the Committee on Sunday-schools, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom were intrusted the special report of the Committee of the last Assembly on Sunday-schools, and the memorial of the Synod of Michigan on the same subject, respectfully report:

That they have carefully considered the papers committed, and are of the opinion that the subject therein presented, and the suggestions made thereon, call for the earnest deliberation and mature action of this Assembly. The labors of individuals and churches on behalf of Sunday-schools, in the provisions admirably devised for their accommodation, in the literature or music provided for their use, in the development of talents and influences especially adapted to interest and operate on the minds there gathered, and in concerts of prayer, have conspired to lift the institution into a position of prominence and power never before occupied, and promising yet greater growth and larger good. This fact seems to require that a more distinct recognition of the Sunday-school agency be made in our Assembly reports, and that its relation to the [507] Church and its authorities be more clearly defined. While experience has demonstrated the vast capacities for good that lie in the Sunday-school, and which ought to be more fully unfolded, it has in various ways, also, admonished us of evils which ought to be guarded against and avoided. The danger is, that the Sunday-school may become detached from its proper connection with the Church and its authorities, and assume an independence which must prove, in the end, injurious both to itself and the Church.

This severance has, we learn, actually taken place in some instances, and the proper shepherd of the flock can appear before the lambs only by the sufferance of the superintendent; and so the young, cut off from their appointed spiritual guardians, are exposed to influences which cannot be brought under proper supervision and control. We would recommend, therefore, that the Assembly adopt and act upon the resolutions presented in the papers that we have in charge, thereby bringing this important institution within their constant purview, and doing what they can to develop and impress its great importance upon the hearts of the Church.

Resolved, 1. That it belongs emphatically to the pastor and elders of each congregation to direct and supervise the whole work of the spiritual training of the young, and that it is an important part of the functions of their office, both to encourage parents to fidelity in bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and, also, to secure the co-operation of all the competent members of the Church, in the religious education of all the children and youth to whom they can gain access.

2. That great attention ought to be paid to the work of inculcating lessons from the sacred Scriptures, and of fixing in the memory the Catechisms of our Church, both as to its doctrine and polity; and still farther of combining all the schools of a congregation in united worship as far as possible, and especially of leading them to Jesus in the exercise of a living faith and continued reliance on the Holy Spirit.

3. That to the above end, we would farther recommend to the pastors that they adapt, wherever practicable, the second discourse of every Sabbath, particularly to the young of their flock; thus affording to this, the most susceptible and hopeful portion of their fields, at least one half of their time and labor, and giving their children distinctly to feel that they have a place, no less in the sanctuary than in the Sunday-school, both for worship and instruction.

4. That church sessions be required to furnish, in their statistical reports, a full account of the number of Sunday-school scholars and teachers in their respective congregations, to be embodied in the Assembly's Minutes.

5. That a Permanent Committee of the Assembly be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take charge of this great interest, and to report whatever may quicken and stimulate the Church, in its duty of training the young according to the Word of God. [508]

6. That this General Assembly earnestly recommend to the pastors of the churches within its bounds to present before their congregations, in one or more discourses, the relation of baptized children to the Church, and the reciprocal duties between parents and children, growing out of this relation, as defined in the word of God, and declared in the doctrines of our Church.

7. That it is exceedingly desirable that the entire congregation, old and young, be permanently connected with the Sunday-school, either as scholars or teachers.

The report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey was taken from the docket, when the exceptions therein recorded were stricken out, and the Records were approved as far as written.

Resolved, That this Assembly, looking with interest and concern upon the condition of the Temperance cause throughout our land, reiterates the sentiments and recommendations of former Assemblies, and calls upon its ministers and the members of its churches to renew their efforts in this direction, and especially to refrain from the use of cider, beer, and ale, as a beverage, and also from the manufacture and similar use of domestic wines.

The following resolution was referred to the Permanent Committee on Sunday-schools:

Resolved, That a Committee of three ministers and two elders be appointed, to prepare a circular, embodying the resolutions passed on the subject of Sunday-schools, and urging upon pastors and sessions, as the judgment of this Assembly, the importance of assuming the spiritual care and oversight of the schools connected with the churches under their care, to send a copy of this circular to every pastor, and to report to the next General Assembly such action on this subject as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Committee on Leave of Absence be instructed to report to their respective Presbyteries the delinquencies of such Commissioners to this body as have absented, or as may absent themselves, without leave, from a full half day's session of this Assembly.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a revision of the Statistical Tables presented the following report, which was adopted, namely:

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a revision of the Statistical Tables recommend that the subjects recorded shall comprise the following, in the order mentioned, namely:

I. Under the general head of Membership.
   1. Communicants added on examination.
   2. Communicants added on certificate.
   3. Whole number enrolled.
   4. The number who have been non-resident for a period of five years. [509]
   5. Adults baptized.
   6. Infants baptized.
   7. The entire Sunday-school membership connected with or under the care of the church.

II. Under the general head of Contributions.
   1. General Assembly.
   2. Assembly's Committee on Home Missions.
   3. Assembly's Committee on Foreign Missions, viz., the A. B. C. F. M.
   4. Assembly's Committee on Education.
   5. Assembly's Committee on Publication.
   6. Assembly's Ministerial Relief Fund.
   7. Congregational—including all moneys expended by the particular congregation for salaries, building repairs or erection, and incidental expenses.
   8. Miscellaneous—including all contributions to objects not already specified.

The Committee further recommend the omission of cents in the record of funds contributed.

The following persons were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House: Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq.

And the following persons were also duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the General Assembly's Church Erection Fund: Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., Mr. William E. Dodge, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, to serve for the full term of three years; and Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and Rev. Samuel D. Burchard,

D. D., to fill vacancies during the term closing in June, 1866, occasioned by the decease of the Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and the resignation of the Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 8, as follows:

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be authorized to take measures to become incorporated, so as to receive and hold property in trust for the General Assembly, to be expended in Foreign Missions.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the Overture, and it was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 9, as follows: [510]

Resolved, 1. That it affords us great pleasure to renew our expression of confidence in the American Bible Society, as one of the great instrumentalities of God, by the dissemination of his Word, for the preservation of the civil and religious liberties of our land, and the moral and spiritual elevation of the whole family of man.

Resolved, 2. That we offer devout thanksgiving to Almighty God for the prosperity of the Society during the past year, enabling it, to a large extent, to meet the wants of the army and navy, in supplying our noble men with the Word of life, which has been to them an unfailing source of instruction and comfort, amid the trials, sacrifices, and sufferings to which they have been exposed.

Resolved, 3. That in view of the increasing demand for the Holy Scriptures in the foreign field and the home work, we will encourage our people to increased liberal support of the Bible cause; and, while we welcome the accredited agents to our pulpits, we will cordially co-operate with them, in every proper measure, to advance the interests of this great and benevolent work.

On the recommendation of the Committee, the report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 10, as follows:

Resolved, That the General Assembly's Permanent Committee on Publication, as speedily as possible, procure stereotype plates of the "Confession of Faith" and "Shorter Catechism," to correspond with the largest and smallest sizes of our "Church Psalmist," and that every "Psalmist," hereafter bound and sent forth by the Committee, have, at the end of the same, a copy of each of these indispensable Presbyterian documents.

The Committee recommended, that the Overture be referred to the Permanent Committee on Publication, with discretionary power to act in the matter, according to their judgment.

The report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 11, as follows:

Has a session or church constitutional power, in examining a candidate for membership, to require abstinence from any error, practice, or custom, which the members adjudge to be sinful, and decidedly injurious to personal piety, and to the interests of the Church of Christ? And, if they have this power, then is it expedient to admit persons to membership who practise and defend promiscuous dancing, card-playing, and the use, manufacture, and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage?

The Committee recommended the following answer:

It is the province of the session to judge of the qualifications of candidates for membership in the Church. For their guidance in the matters noticed in the Overture, reference is made to past acts of the Assembly, found in the Digest, Chapter VII., on "Moral Questions," sections 3, 4, and 5.

The report was adopted. [511]

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 12, as follows:

Whereas, The exigencies of the country are such that in all probability it will be necessary, for many years, to maintain a large standing army and navy; and

Whereas, The regulations of the army and navy, as well as the efficiency of these branches of the public service, require that they be supplied with suitable chaplains; and

Whereas, It is desirable that the Presbyterian Church do its part in providing suitable men to fill these responsible positions, and be properly represented in them; therefore,

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Home Missions be requested and authorized to act as a Special Committee of the General Assembly, to receive and examine all applications that may be made to them by those desiring appointments as chaplains, either in the army or navy, and, if satisfied with the qualifications of said applicants, furnish them with a recommendation to that effect.

The Committee recommended the indefinite postponement of the Overture, and the report was adopted.

The Committee further reported Overture No. 13, as follows:

Whereas, The providence of God has recently given special encouragement to Christian labor for the propagation of a pure Gospel, in various parts of the world that have long been under the influence of Romish superstition, especially in South America and Italy;

Resolved, That this Assembly recognizes the American and Foreign Christian Union as invested with a peculiarly high and solemn responsibility, as pledged to a most honorable work, and as worthy of the confidence, affection, and liberal support of all our churches.

On the recommendation of the Committee, the report was adopted.

The Committee, also, reported Overture No. 14, as follows:

Resolved, That a *Committee* of five be appointed, to report to the next General Assembly, *on* the relations of the Church to *the Weekly Religious Press*—its interest in, and its duty in regard to, the family religious newspaper.

On their recommendation, the report was adopted, and the Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., the Rev. Clement E. Babb, the Rev. Henry M. Field, D. D., the Rev. John W. Mears, and Mr. Edward D. Mansfield, were appointed to this service.

The Committee further reported, that they have received a memorial from the session of the First Presbyterian church of Detroit, setting forth the imperative necessity which the providence of God has laid upon our Church, at the present time, to awake to a higher degree of spiritual life and activity, especially in view of the enlarged fields of labor which are opened for missionary effort. The memorial calls especial attention to the wants of our destitute and unoccupied regions at the West, and likewise those which are being opened by the tread of our advancing [512] armies at the South and South-west. It likewise sets forth, in earnest words, the call for Christian labors among that long-oppressed race who are now coming forth, from their bondage and slavery, into the possession of their rightful heritage of freedom.

The main topics of this memorial have been made the subjects of reference to appropriate Committees. Reports have been received, and fully and thoroughly discussed, and such action has been taken as the Assembly deemed wise. It does not, therefore, seem necessary to take any further action upon them. The Committee, however, feel that the large experience and judgment of their venerable and honored brother, the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., may be employed, to the great advantage and profit of the Church, if he would prepare a succinct statement of the views which have been presented in this memorial, so that they may be published in a form for popular distribution; and they, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Rev. George Duffield, D. D., be requested to prepare and furnish to the Publication Committee, for the use of our churches. a tract, setting forth the demands for Home Missionary labors, which have been imposed upon the Church by the recent developments of God's providence in our nation.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That the Stated and Permanent Clerks of the General Assembly be a Standing Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to mature and report to the next General Assembly a plan, whereby adequate assistance may be furnished to churches who need and should receive aid to a greater amount than five hundred dollars.

A written communication was received from the Rev. Matson M. Smith, D. D., the Delegate appointed by the General Association of Connecticut to this General Assembly.

Rev. Halsey Dunning, the Delegate appointed by the last Assembly to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, presented his report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication was received from the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly, tendering, with reasons, the resignation of his office.

His resignation was accepted, and the cordial thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., for the faithful manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

The Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, was elected Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly. [513]

It was *Resolved*, That the thanks of this General Assembly are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the citizens of Dayton, who have so kindly received and entertained our Commissioners during the sessions of our body.

Also, to the Trustees of the Third street Presbyterian church; to the choir of said church; to the Committee of Arrangements, and especially its Chairman, whose manifold services have made our sessions so agreeable and comfortable.

Also, to the railroad companies who have courteously facilitated the assembling of our body, by reducing the fare on their respective roads.

Also, to the pastor of this church, to whose indefatigable services the body is indebted for the anticipation and supply of all their wants.

Also, to the editor of the *Dayton Journal*, for the publication of our proceedings in his daily issue.

Also, to Mr. A. F. Payne, bookseller, for the kindness manifested in extending to the members of this Assembly the freedom of his establishment.

The pastor of this church was requested to give this action all needful publicity.

It was further resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be presented to the Moderator, the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., to whose urbanity and impartiality we are so much indebted;

Also, to the Clerks, for their promptitude and exactness in arranging the business, and keeping the Records of the Assembly, in a manner so satisfactory.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without leave: Messrs. Cyrus Coy, Hon. Horace J. Poinier, David Bassett, Richard E. Wilder, and Gilbert E. Collins. and the Rev. John Fisher.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the La Fayette avenue Presbyterian church in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, A. D., 1865, at 11 o'clock A. M.

T. RALSTON SMITH,
Permanent Clerk, pro tempore.

Dayton, Ohio, May 28th, 1864.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1864.

REPORTS have been received from eighty-one different Presbyteries. In a summary so brief as this Narrative should be, it is difficult to present a just and graphic view of the condition of our portion of the great field. The Christian life of 135,894 believers, and the labors of 1616 ministers, for one year; or a biography, covering 137,510 years of toil and struggle and suffering and victory, must be given within the limits of a few moments. It is no easy task. Only salient points can be noticed; and the vividness and interest of details must be sacrificed to the imperatives of comprehensiveness and brevity. And how shall the choice be made, among so much material? It is easy to discover and record abundant evidences, that our churches have not been so devoted as they might have been. It is easy to give a sad and sombre tone to such a portraiture as this. Everything depends upon the spirit in which we look upon the facts that come under review.

> "Everywhere the light and shade
> By the gazer's eye are made."

We might chronicle and lament the ravages of vices, the pretensions of error, and the triumphs of sin; yet we are called upon to report the condition and progress, not of Satan's kingdom, but of Christ's. Not merely to fight the devil, but to serve the Saviour, is the mission of our Church. Evil is to be overcome with good; and the progress of the good is the best, and the brightest, and the greatest thing.

There are tokens for good, many encouraging tokens, in the general condition of our denomination. The characteristic spirit of our Church, which utters itself with distinctness and emphasis in the reports from the Presbyteries, is genial and broad, generous and earnest. It is the spirit, not of law alone, which would be bondage, nor of liberty alone, which would be license; but it is the spirit of law and liberty—the spirit of the Gospel. It is noticeable. that, from year to year, there are evidences of increasing oneness.

The different parts of the Church, though widely separated, are blending in warmer sympathy, and in a more compact unity. There is more of thrift, and there is more of church loyalty, throughout our body; and, though our catholicity was never broader than now, yet there never was so deep and cheerful a conviction in the brain and heart of our Church, that we have a special and distinct mission, and need not to lean on other denominations, but only on God, to accomplish that mission. The Presbyteries and churches are girding themselves for more earnest work. They are engaging in the great enterprises of benevolence, to which they are committed, with increasing interest and liberality. They are giving themselves, with more and more hearty loyalty, to the support of our own proper Church work. Our Permanent Committees are encouraged and stimulated by the responses of the churches, which point them forward, and promise them increasing support. The general tone of the Reports from the Presbyteries is thus cheerful and inspiring.

Intemperance.

There are, indeed, not a few lamentations over the prevalence of profanity and intemperance and Sabbath desecration; but such lamentations we expect to hear, continually, in this fallen world, until the full anthem of the final triumph of the Church shall drown for ever the harsh discords of the world's sin and the world's suffering. With respect to the cause of temperance, there is, doubtless, sufficient occasion for the almost universal anxiety and complaint, which are conspicuous in the Reports of the Presbyteries. We are in a period of reaction and transition on that subject. We must seek broader and surer ground than has sometimes been occupied, and give ourselves to more careful and intelligent and prayerful efforts to remedy the awful evil, which is destroying so many hopes and desolating so many homes.

Payment of Church Debts.

It would be interesting, if our statistical tables could be made to show how much is contributed, each year. not only to missionary enterprises, but to the no less important work of building or improving houses of worship, and of lessening or cancelling church debts. An almost unexampled amount of this work has been accomplished during the past year. We have reason for profound gratitude and hearty rejoicing, that such a liberal spirit and such great enterprise have been shown by so many of our churches. Perhaps there never was so favorable a time for the removal of church debts as the present; and it is to be devoutly hoped, that the good work begun so nobly will be carried on to the end.

Love of Country.

The marked unanimity of our people in supporting the Government, and in confronting slavery and its rebellion, is an occasion for special thankfulness. The loyalty of our people, as a body, without malevolence, is deep, thorough, enthusiastic. It is not a passion, but a principle. From every quarter there come to us the warmest utterances of patriotism and of devotion to liberty. Many of our churches are suffering severely from the loss of their best young men, who have gone to the front at the call of their country. But those who remain are thinking, and feeling, and praying, as never before. There are undoubtedly excesses in extravagance and in worldliness; and against these there is great need of special watchfulness. But your Committee are persuaded, that extravagance and worldliness are not the general or prevailing characteristics of the present condition of the Church. There are some who look only upon the surface of society, and see only the giddiness of those who have acquired sudden wealth, or only the thoughtlessness of those who are not softened, but hardened, by adversity; and such as take this superficial view are apt to speak in tones of sadness and despondency, concerning the condition of the Church and of society. But, in times of such profound and universal agitation, when the Divine power is stirring society to its lowest depths, it must be expected that the scum will rise to the surface. Yet deep down beneath that surface there are the profound and thorough workings of such a tuition as no other nation ever knew. And there never was a time when the majesty and sovereignty of God, and the entire dependence of man, were so deeply felt by our people as now. There never was a time when we knew, so well as now, while our sons and brothers are grappling with the foe, what it is to pray without ceasing.

Revivals of Religion.

No less than fifty-two of our churches are reported as having experienced revivals of religion, while many others speak with peculiar hopefulness and expectation of their spiritual condition, or are rejoicing in the first drops that betoken the nearness of abundant showers. Many of these revivals have been exceedingly deep and powerful, so that great multitudes have been added to the churches. The prominent characteristic of these works of grace has been the ingathering of children and youth. Much special labor has been expended in their behalf. In Utica, in Rochester, in Cincinnati, and in Newark, N. J., hopeful conversions among the children have been numbered by the hundred. There is a growing feeling apparent in the churches, to which frequent allusion is made in the reports from the Presbyteries, that we must give greater emphasis and practical prominence to the Abrahamic covenant; that we must more distinctly recognize the proper position of the baptized children within the Church; that we must do more for these children, and expect more from them. While interest in Sabbath-schools, as a general rule, is steadily increasing, yet it is evidently a growing conviction that the Word of God should be preached to the children, and that the pastor's official relations to them should have this open and habitual recognition.

There are many items of interest upon which your Committee would have been glad to report to the Assembly. But a certain want of definiteness, which is generally characteristic of Presbyterial Narratives, makes this impossible. It would be pleasant and profitable, to know how many of our brethren have gone as chaplains to the army, and how many have fallen at their posts of duty; but these and many other questions, which our hearts ask, we have not the data for answering. The review of the year is indeed encouraging. Our beloved Church is making such progress as calls for devout gratitude to God. We have reason to rejoice in her position, in her prospects, and in the vastness of her undeveloped resources. which we pray the Great Head of the Church to help us to call forth and consecrate to God and humanity.

Decease of Ministers.

The following ministers have departed this life during the year:

Gardner Hayden,	of the Presbytery of	Troy.
Boswell Pettibone,	"	St. Lawrence.
Peter Snyder,	"	Watertown.
Chauncey E. Goodrich,	"	Utica.
Orlo Bartholomew,	"	"
Ira Ingraham,	"	Geneva.
Francis L. Whiting,	"	Chemung.
Lewis M. Shepherd,	"	Lyons.
Joseph Rosenkrans,	"	Onondaga.
Caleb Clark,	"	Cortland.
Ralph S. Crampton,	"	Rochester.
Josiah Partington,	"	Niagara.
Clifford S. Arms,	"	Hudson.
Daniel Beers,	"	Long Island.
David Oliver Allen, D. D.,	"	New York, Third.
J. Parsons Hovey, D. D.,	"	New York, Fourth.
James W. McLane, D. D.,	"	Brooklyn.
Thomas S. Ward,	"	Montrose.
John O. Blythe,	"	Philadelphia, Third.
Horatio S. Howell,	"	Philadelphia, Fourth.
Moses Jewell,	"	District of Columbia.
Reuben Armstrong,	"	Detroit.
Warren Isham,	"	Lake Superior.
Caleb Pitkin,	"	Portage.
Phineas Kingsley,	"	Cleveland.
David Hughes,	"	Athens.
Enoch R. Martin,	"	Madison.
Daniel Jones,	"	Fort Wayne.
Calvin Bushnell,	"	Ottawa.

By order of the General Assembly.

THOMAS BRAINERD, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORTS OF DELEGATES

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, that met at Peoria, Illinois, in May, 1863.

The undersigned, having been appointed to represent your venerable body in the General Assembly, whose sessions were held in Peoria, Illinois, in May, 1863, respectfully report, that we endeavored to perform the service assigned to us. We received notice of our appointment for this service by telegraph, several days after the opening of the Assembly at Peoria, without any intimation in regard to the duty devolved upon us, beyond what was implied in the simple announcement, that we were expected to act the part of Delegates to that body.

We were received courteously, and with manifest cordiality, by our brethren of the other Assembly. We conveyed to them the fraternal salutations of our Assembly and of our whole Church; and assured them of our high satisfaction, on the opening of this new correspondence, which we felt had been too long delayed. We did not, however, feel authorized to make any expression to them of our views, or desires, in relation to the reunion of the two branches of the Church represented by their Assembly and ours. Nor was any public reference made to this subject during our brief attendance on their sessions. Our private intercourse with the brethren of the Assembly at Peoria, revealed a warm sympathy on their part toward our branch of the Church, while we heard few if any expressions of a desire for a speedy reunion of their branch with ours.

The Assembly was a large, dignified, and able body. There were evidently conflicting currents of feeling among its members, in respect to our national troubles, and the terrible curse by which they have been created. But the controlling sentiment was strongly on the side of loyalty and human liberty.

We cannot doubt that a large majority of the churches and ministers, represented by that Assembly, are coming nearer to us, in relation to most of the grounds of difference and separation between us and them. And we feel assured, that the correspondence that has been inaugurated between the two Assemblies will be attended with happy results, tending, as it must, to foster the spirit of brotherly love and confidence where it has been so far interrupted.

We only add that the Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, D. D., and Mr. A. E. Chamberlain were appointed, by the Assembly at Peoria, as Delegates to the Assembly to be held at Dayton, Ohio.

All which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. Patterson,
W. H. Brown.

Chicago, Ill., May 16th, 1864.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany........	1803	5	83	3	5	65	156	93	7,747	50	117	$309 83	$6,739 47	$3,954 85	$1,876 65	$3,889 87	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	22	...	...	18	33	17	1,977	7	40	58 38	1,681 59	1,443 87	339 00	928 35	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	27	3	2	17	57	34	2,242	21	26	69 00	1,495 95	1,247 40	448 10	1,396 57	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	15	...	1	11	23	18	1,585	4	19	86 20	2,356 50	342 41	743 68	231 00	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	7	...	1	6	9	9	799	4	12	37 70	78 25	375 00	54 28	196 62	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	12	...	1	13	34	15	1,144	14	20	58 55	1,127 18	546 17	291 59	1,137 33	Alvin Cooper.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	75	4	11	69	360	163	6,785	148	108	235 45	4,616 36	3,486 41	901 35	2,698 45	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence..........	1818	...	9	...	...	8	15	15	756	2	6	33 15	183 90	669 80	4 25	265 10	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	...	...	20	17	17	1,965	5	28	103 15	489 72	717 37	326 87	502 47	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego..................	1823	...	7	...	...	13	42	26	1,370	29	11	36 25	487 04	634 22	257 09	142 44	John N. Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	41	4	11	28	286	105	2,694	112	63	62 90	3,455 70	1,465 02	313 14	1,788 44	Timothy Dwight Hunt.
III. Synod of Onondaga...	1855	4	95	26	19	70	330	231	8,050	165	164	352 52	5,549 39	3,556 48	2,526 80	2,533 75	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga...............	1810	...	23	...	3	21	71	43	2,442	39	48	109 30	1,521 46	933 89	676 75	981 22	Chester W. Hawley.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	36	25	14	22	173	117	2,554	94	59	124 22	2,536 27	1,265 93	1,528 48	714 47	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland..	1825	...	14	...	...	16	14	32	1,689	9	28	49 00	576 77	384 12	79 50	405 08	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Tioga.....................	1829	...	22	1	2	11	72	39	1,365	23	29	70 00	914 89	972 54	242 07	432 98	Samuel H. Hall, D. D.
IV. Synod of Geneva......	1812	6	102	5	4	91	372	191	8,959	161	162	424 15	3,739 91	3,086 37	1,485 43	2,829 79	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva..................	1805	...	34	2	...	18	72	74	2,544	20	50	127 40	835 95	1,126 22	489 95	957 31	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben..................	1817	...	13	...	...	18	37	20	1,389	20	24	50 00	459 85	303 60	88 75	175 12	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	20	...	...	18	23	38	1,401	6	25	70 50	895 02	505 58	335 00	464 37	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	10	...	1	8	37	14	1,236	15	12	62 20	880 30	655 80	297 00	435 47	David Torrey, D. D.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	10	1	...	14	35	5	590	23	9	29 00	30 44	28 59	3 08	10 50	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons.....................	1856	...	15	2	3	15	168	40	1,799	77	42	85 05	638 35	466 58	271 65	787 02	Arunah H. Lilly.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	36	1	6	43	126	61	3,736	46	44	$172 57	$1,322 63	$2,318 55	$626 56	$863 39	William T. Doubleday.
1. Otsego	1820	...	14	1	1	16	60	21	1,395	24	13	73 50	679 64	1,507 99	206 41	343 37	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	13	...	2	15	23	21	1,497	6	9	43 80	512 28	681 46	279 45	167 38	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	9	...	3	12	43	19	844	16	22	55 27	130 71	129 10	140 70	352 64	Julius S. Pattengill.
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE	1821	6	131	7	10	99	695	352	12,673	264	216	632 96	7,915 54	6,409 02	3,904 22	6,389 21	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	37	...	8	26	118	91	3,424	29	80	194 00	2,634 92	2,817 95	1,845 53	1,060 01	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	17	...	...	12	42	47	1,486	14	23	75 10	601 89	664 49	330 32	560 28	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	25	6	...	16	366	83	3,070	159	50	130 80	871 56	1,039 02	133 00	3,572 36	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee	1819	...	16	...	1	16	35	43	1,403	15	17	68 90	1,285 56	656 33	542 39	459 22	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara	1823	...	19	1	...	16	37	55	2,199	15	21	108 06	2,050 87	858 24	750 98	519 28	Lucius I. Root.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	17	...	1	13	97	33	1,091	32	25	56 10	470 74	372 99	302 00	218 06	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. SYN. OF N. Y. AND N. J.	1788	9	278	47	50	162	1146	1068	27,931	318	686	1394 20	58,753 04	42,044 70	17,734 94	24,329 03	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson	1797	...	17	...	...	13	73	50	1,693	37	46	83 20	511 08	583 29	154 77	412 85	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	24	1	...	18	147	42	1,921	69	51	111 00	841 43	683 27	186 96	1,746 05	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	8	...	...	6	5	2	691	2	17	35 20	642 81	278 28	54 80	317 10	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	60	16	20	22	218	286	6,542	55	151	317 05	15,333 14	10,400 54	3,845 55	3,733 16	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	49	19	19	15	177	241	3,395	30	57	162 60	13,840 01	21,288 44	5,667 47	8,083 33	John Spaulding.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	20	3	1	9	64	152	2,673	11	64	134 55	11,891 70	2,032 54	1,275 30	4,397 33	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	48	6	8	27	287	202	6,255	38	206	304 00	14,169 77	5,270 21	5,029 59	4,147 74	James Hoyt.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	23	1	1	20	78	35	2,229	42	45	112 60	629 10	566 30	814 88	1,321 70	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	29	1	1	32	97	58	2,532	34	49	134 00	894 00	941 83	705 62	169 77	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	101	12	24	84	663	398	13,898	188	511	749 45	44,171 91	10,380 46	12,790 86	9,663 00	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	11	2	3	15	135	34	1,564	50	15	78 20	5,463 14	592 31	318 89	638 23	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	34	1	5	23	142	155	3,756	36	174	187 00	22,876 00	3,241 00	4,268 00	4,854 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth.	1845	...	35	5	12	28	273	144	6,063	85	223	291 25	13,108 53	4,223 57	6,470 35	2,705 08	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	11	3	3	9	37	24	1,061	3	42	111 00	2,460 40	1,566 57	1,190 50	1,180 60	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. Dist. of Columbia	1831	...	10	1	1	9	76	41	1,454	14	57	82 00	263 84	757 01	543 12	285 09	William McLain, D. D.

IX. Synod of West Penn.	1843	3	26	2	1	33	124	78	2,995	49	74	142 67	2,536 47	1,565 96	11,647 52	1,455 93	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	14	1	...	13	66	28	1,350	35	27	66 50	347 49	285 81	100 62	477 93	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	8	1	1	15	27	11	852	10	27	31 42	132 52	56 00	245 90	46 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh.	1839	...	4	...	...	5	31	39	793	4	20	44 75	2,056 46	1,224 15	11,301 00	932 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	113	4	10	110	316	396	8,628	94	255	433 55	4,419 22	2,743 16	2,437 92	1,763 67	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit	1826	...	18	...	3	16	40	55	1,321	2	43	65 00	1,668 26	765 91	743 25	267 51	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	...	...	16	84	61	1,287	20	51	59 75	380 96	372 54	98 00	201 61	George Duffield, Jr.
3. Marshall	1838	..	17	...	1	14	49	68	1,360	26	24	69 30	328 80	181 42	76 81	38 56	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	2	5	9	38	61	1,184	24	26	57 15	242 09	131 60	497 85	31 26	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	18	1	1	15	56	27	1,370	6	43	70 05	856 55	776 21	93 16	554 59	Job Pierson.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	9	1	...	12	17	45	860	7	21	45 35	386 53	228 86	443 84	279 63	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	13	...	...	14	23	60	769	7	33	47 20	369 78	209 77	301 25	348 00	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	8	...	...	9	9	19	401	...	14	19 75	186 25	76 85	183 76	42 51	David M. Cooper.
9. Lake Superior*	1857	...	2	...	...	5	...	...	76	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	6	102	4	13	80	140	181	6,157	56	158	298 75	8,524 78	5,063 84	5,251 32	3,910 19	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River*	1814	...	8	...	...	5	...	..	432	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	17	...	2	16	29	36	1,283	8	23	65 70	530 64	413 84	767 02	422 21	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull	1827	...	12	...	1	15	18	38	1,153	8	29	56 55	379 38	533 75	160 83	706 67	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland & Portage	1830	...	45	4	6	21	47	70	1,992	19	66	104 75	4,160 51	2,805 80	3,249 97	1,103 06	James Shaw.
5. Elyria	1842	...	13	...	1	12	20	6	594	10	13	28 75	1,850 00	996 80	121 00	1,293 50	Ansel R. Clark.
6. Maumee	1842	...	7	...	3	11	26	31	703	11	27	43 00	1,604 25	313 65	952 50	384 75	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	53	5	6	67	118	106	4,306	29	145	189 56	1,929 98	1,639 07	1,454 94	1,308 66	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	11	2	5	17	19	19	783	3	34	36 50	215 25	107 31	137 15	240 02	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	19	1	...	23	37	35	1,459	5	57	71 06	728 78	667 89	890 35	344 60	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	..	18	2	1	17	31	44	1,261	17	33	39 50	556 78	639 67	281 14	172 04	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	5	...	...	10	31	8	803	4	21	42 50	429 17	224 20	146 30	552 00	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati.	1829	4	55	11	1	51	276	126	3,849	79	135	250 30	5,953 88	2,829 26	12,189 36	6,881 92	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	26	10	...	16	69	71	1,504	15	87	131 50	4,068 50	1,833 92	11,436 86	6,261 78	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	12	...	1	17	32	18	878	4	24	38 15	529 00	221 30	213 00	312 90	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	...	7	...	...	10	81	20	914	28	18	45 65	911 88	337 00	437 50	147 00	William M. Cheever.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	10	1	...	8	94	17	553	32	6	35 00	444 50	437 04	102 00	160 24	John Hussey.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA...	1826	4	42	2	7	63	192	124	3,679	79	105	$196 52	$2,538 80	$2,257 32	$7,295 54	$873 88	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem.....................	1823	...	9	...	...	15	95	25	1,007	41	40	45 55	993 40	648 76	5,402 50	78 88	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	9	2	5	15	42	15	867	18	23	51 42	492 95	631 22	558 80	248 95	Wm. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis...........	1830	...	13	...	2	18	31	49	1,110	12	22	64 50	768 90	651 40	1,248 74	502 85	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle...........	1850	...	11	...	...	15	24	35	695	8	20	35 05	283 55	322 94	85 50	43 20	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH......	1851	4	33	...	...	54	141	97	2,740	42	83	107 50	673 41	1,123 42	1,095 89	660 15	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville.........	1825	...	10	...	...	12	21	26	580	7	6	27 00	137 06	227 55	197 45	30 00	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph...............	1833	...	10	...	...	14	45	21	724	14	12	28 10	202 20	428 22	512 25	129 05	Bethuel Farrand.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	...	19	49	32	1,020	10	47	29 95	278 00	232 00	289 00	478 00	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne............	1845	...	5	...	...	9	26	18	416	11	18	22 45	56 15	235 65	97 19	23 10	William R. Palmer.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS	1831	4	71	...	...	83	191	170	4,455	63	135	218 85	3,001 60	2,013 43	1,550 01	2,130 70	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois..................	1828	...	18	...	...	20	79	45	1,447	21	33	61 50	884 00	1,423 00	515 86	961 60	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	17	...	...	21	45	38	1,150	19	34	56 05	477 05	308 98	467 70	580 90	George I. King.
3. Wabash..................	1833	...	9	...	...	10	12	26	448	1	25	19 90	215 35	78 50	16 00	......	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton.....................	1836	...	27	...	...	32	55	61	1,410	22	43	81 40	1,425 20	202 95	550 45	588 20	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA	1843	5	86	...	4	71	228	258	5,155	77	167	238 60	7,947 48	3,094 70	1,560 50	2,864 04	Zephan. M. Humphrey.
1. Ottawa..	1834	...	14	...	...	9	41	11	415	15	20	18 20	134 75	65 50	......	11 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox.	1836	...	8	...	3	8	30	31	553	13	11	28 05	181 05	264 54	339 20	322 70	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena & Belvidere...	1842	...	27	...	...	21	64	44	1,357	24	44	58 15	956 96	393 95	73 20	404 05	Isaac E. Carey.
4. Chicago..................	1847	...	30	...	...	20	75	134	2,240	22	70	103 80	6,574 40	2,266 71	1,148 10	2,116 29	Asahel L. Brooks.
5. Bloomington...........	1847	...	7	...	1	13	18	38	590	3	22	30 40	100 32	104 00	......	10 00	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN.	1857	3	32	...	...	28	58	39	1,316	20	77	64 30	345 78	128 58	395 58	248 82	Sidney H. Barteau.
1. Milwaukee..............	1851	...	13	...	...	7	12	11	556	5	53	27 85	214 99	60 49	161 57	153 92	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851	...	8	...	...	7	6	11	312	2	3	13 20	37 00	4 00	105 50	......	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1857	...	11	...	...	14	40	17	448	13	21	23 25	93 79	64 09	128 51	94 90	Benjamin G. Riley.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA........	1853	6	51	...	2	55	79	90	1,982	14	74	118 50	963 59	232 00	409 97	399 90	Samuel Storrs Howe.
1. Des Moines.	1845	...	6	...	...	10	8	18	281	1	13	12 65	72 80	28 25	38 75	69 50	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk..................	1852	...	8	...	2	6	12	3	294	1	13	16 85	152 40	55 25	146 47	89 00	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City...............	1852	...	14	...	...	15	19	31	500	6	27	38 00	157 50	48 65	199 75	172 85	Hannibal L. Stanley.
4. Dubuque.................	1855	...	7	...	...	4	11	11	206	3	11	10 00	264 69	64 85	......	68 55	Henry B. Holmes.
5. Chariton	1857	...	5	...	...	6	14	...	295	2	7	18 00	56 00	......	......	......	Asa Martin.
6. Cedar Valley	1860	...	11	...	...	14	15	27	406	1	3	23 00	260 20	35 00	25 00	......	Calvin Waterbury.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA..	1858	3	26	...	2	22	171	59	1,014	129	189	33 85	239 45	166 95	229 85	302 85	Charles S. Le Duc.
1. Dakota....................	1846	...	12	...	...	8	150	32	524	122	172	10 45	27 70	36 25	......	232 00	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	8	...	...	9	13	7	295	3	12	14 75	175 75	115 70	115 50	9 50	John Mattocks.
3. Winona...................	1857	...	6	...	2	5	8	20	195	4	5	8 65	36 00	15 00	114 35	61 35	Edmund D. Holt.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI...	1832	4	24	2	...	23	77	51	1,352	17	39	50 50	2,159 85	364 51	988 05	434 45	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis..................	1831	...	6	...	...	3	27	23	495	5	24	24 00	2,054 20	301 91	953 05	434 45	Edmund Wright.
2. Lexington	1842	...	6	...	...	4	5	...	432	...	...	6 30	10 00	54 60	......	......	Timothy Morgan.
3. Northern Missouri.....	1845	...	5	...	...	5	32	5	235	7	...	10 45	52 00	8 00	35 00	......	James A. Darrah.
4. Kansas	1859	...	7	2	...	11	13	23	190	5	15	9 75	43 65	......	......	......	Judson Aspinwall.
XXII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA	1857	4	29	...	...	19	21	22	667	5	48	......	135 00	70 00	......	12 00	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco*........	1849	...	9	...	...	3	...	...	143	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada..........	1857	...	8	...	...	5	17	12	218	5	16	......	......	......	......	......	Walter Frear.
3. San José.................	1857	...	8	...	...	8	4	10	253	...	32	......	135 00	70 00	......	12 00	Wm. Wallace Brier.
4. Washoe*................	1863	...	4	...	...	3	...	...	53	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	Albert F. White.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	83	3	5	65	156	93	7,747	50	117	$309.83	$6,739.47	$3,954.85	$1,876.65	$3,889.87
2. Utica	1829	4	75	4	11	69	360	163	6,785	148	108	235.45	4,616.36	3,486.41	961.35	2,698.45
3. Onondaga	1855	4	95	26	19	70	330	231	8,050	165	164	352.52	5,549.39	3,556.48	2,526.80	2,533.75
4. Geneva	1812	6	102	5	4	91	372	191	8,959	161	162	424.15	3,739.91	3,086.37	1,485.43	2,829.79
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	36	1	6	43	126	61	3,736	46	44	172.57	1,322.63	2,318.55	626.56	863.39
6. Genesee	1821	6	131	7	10	99	695	352	12,673	264	216	632.96	7,915.54	6,409.02	3,904.22	6,389.21
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	278	47	50	162	1146	1068	27,931	318	686	1394.20	58,753.04	42,044.70	17,734.94	24,329.03
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	101	12	24	84	663	398	13,898	188	511	749.45	44,171.91	10,380.46	12.780.86	9,663.00
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	26	2	1	33	124	78	2,995	49	74	142.67	2,536.47	1.565.96	11,647.52	1,455.93
10. Michigan	1834	9	113	4	10	110	316	396	8,628	94	255	433.55	4,419.22	2,743.16	2,437.92	1,763.67
11. Western Reserve	1825	6	102	4	13	80	140	181	6,157	56	158	298.75	8,524.78	5.063.84	5,251.32	3.910.19
12. Ohio	1814	4	53	5	6	67	118	106	4.306	29	145	189.56	1,929.98	1,639.07	1,454.94	1,308.66
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	55	11	1	51	276	126	3,849	79	135	250.30	5,953.88	2,829.26	12,189.36	6,881.92
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	2	7	63	192	124	3,679	79	105	196.52	2,538.80	2,257.32	7,295.54	873.88
15. Wabash	1851	4	33	...	...	54	141	97	2,740	42	83	107.50	673.41	1,123.42	1,095.89	660.15
16. Illinois	1831	4	71	...	...	83	191	170	4,455	63	135	218.85	3,001.60	2,013.43	1.550.01	2,130.70
17. Peoria	1843	5	86	...	4	71	228	258	5,155	77	167	238.60	7,947.48	3,094.70	1.560.50	2,864.04
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	32	...	...	28	58	39	1,316	20	77	64.30	345.78	128.58	395.58	248.82
19. Iowa	1853	6	51	...	2	55	79	90	1,982	14	74	118.50	963.59	232.00	409.97	399.90
20. Minnesota	1858	3	26	...	2	22	171	59	1,014	129	189	33.85	239.45	166.95	229.85	302.85
21. Missouri	1832	4	24	2	...	23	77	51	1,352	17	39	50.50	2,159.85	364.51	988.05	434.45
22. Alta California	1857	4	29	...	...	19	21	22	667	5	48	......	135.00	70.00	......	12.00
		105	1644	135	175	1442	5980	4354	138,074	2093	3692	$6614.58	$174,177.54	$98,529.04	$88,353.26	$76,443.65

MINUTES, 1865.

Brooklyn, New York, May 18*th*, 1865.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the La Fayette avenue Presbyterian church, of the city of Brooklyn, New York, on Thursday, the 18th of May, 1865, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Proverbs 11 : 30: "He that winneth souls is wise."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the sessions of the Assembly be opened at 8½ o'clock A. M., and 3 o'clock P. M.; that they close at 12½ and 5½ o'clock P. M.; that the evening services commence at 7¾ o'clock; and that the first hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [4]

Thursday, May 18*th*, 3½ *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Jonathan Copeland,	Zephaniah C. Platt.
2. *Troy*,	Jotham Sewall,	John Lambert, M. D.,
	Lewis Kellogg,	Hon. Nicholas M. Masters.
3. *Albany*,	Frederick S. Jewell (2),	Edward A. Durant (2).
4. *Columbia*,	William H. Clark,	Frederick Phelps (2).
5. *Catskill*,	John O. Wells,	La Fayette Moore.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	John W. Whitfield,	Hon. Calvin T. Hulburd.
2. *Watertown*,	George W. Mackie,	George W. Knowlton.
3. *Oswego*,	Edward Lord (2),	Hon. Ransom H. Tyler (2).
4. *Utica*,	Samuel W. Fisher, D. D.,	Jared E. Warner,
	Moses E. Dunham,	John C. Gallup, M. D.

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Edwin Benedict,	Justus Townsend.
2. *Cayuga*,	Horace H. Allen,	Samuel Stringham,
	John Tompkins,	Philo Clark, M. D.
3. *Cortland*,	Irving L. Beman,	John M. Roe.
4. *Tioga*,	David A. Abbey,	Stephen D. Hand, M. D.

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	A. Augustus Wood, D. D.,	Ezra D. Cook (2),
	Charles E. Stebbins,	Ebenezer B. Jones.
2. *Steuben*,	Lewis F. Laine,	Luther Sturtevant.
3. *Chemung*,	Charles Chapman,	Martin S. Phinney.
4. *Ithaca*,	Warren Mayo,	George McChain.
5. *Wellsboro*,	John L. Swain,	Samuel Hazlett.
6. *Lyons*,	William H. Megie,	Absalom P. Chatham.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Charles Gillette.	
2. *Chenango*,	Eleroy Curtis,	Edgar A. Phillips.
3. *Delaware*,	Charles H. De Long,	William McGibbon.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	William Waith,	Andrew Parker,
	Sylvester Cowles,	Moses Bristol.
2. *Ontario*,	Samuel Jessup,	Lorin Coy.
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Albe C. Allen,
	John C. Taylor,	Louis Chapin.
4. *Genesee*,	Ebenezer H. Stratton,	Levi M. Harroun.
5. *Niagara*,	Russel S. Egleston,	Hon. Thomas T. Flagler.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	James B. Beaumont,	Abram Merritt. [5]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Joseph M. McNulty,	D. Webster Cooper, M. D.
2. *North River*,	Harvey Smith,	Edward Wells.
3. *Long Island*,	Edward Stratton,	John N. Sayre.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	William W. Newell, D. D.,	John Endicott,
	William H. Babbitt,	Joseph W. Lester,
	James B. Bonar,	John G. Parker.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	John Spaulding,	John P. Crosby,
	William Adams, D. D.,	Oliver E. Wood,
	George L. Prentiss, D. D.,	Albert N. Brown.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	Gurdon Burchard.
7. *Newark*,	J. Allen Maxwell,	James J. Dickerson,
	Charles H. Thompson,	Lyndon A. Smith, M. D.,
	James M. Dickson,	Job Haines.
8. *Rockaway*,	Daniel E. Megie,	Albert R. Riggs.
9. *Montrose*,	Samuel Whaley,	James Deans.
	Thomas R. Townsend,	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	John W. Mears.	Anthony M. Higgins (2).
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	Ezra E. Adams, D. D.,	Adam C. Eckfeldt,
	Daniel March, D. D.,	Isaac Ashmead (3).
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Robert Adair,	Samuel T. Bodine,
	John B. Reeve,	Joseph Francis.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William R. Dewitt, D. D.,	Charles Ogilby.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Thaddeus D. McFalls,	John Knight.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	Thomas B. Hudson,	Joseph D. Clark.
2. *Meadville*,	William T. Dickson,	Daniel Uber.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Herrick Johnson (7),	Hon. Henry W. Williams.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Azariah Eldridge, D. D.,	George S. Frost (4).
2. *Monroe*,	Samuel E. Wishard,	Samuel E. Hart.
3. *Marshall*,	Loomis Chandler,	William H. Skinner.
4. *Washtenaw*,	J. Ford Sutton,	Charles Holmes, Jr.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Albert H. Gaston,	Daniel D. McMartin.
6. *Coldwater*,	Frederick R. Gallaher,	John H. Phelps.
7. *Saginaw*,	Henry H. Northrop,	Robert Ure.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.*,	Edwin D. Newberry,	William H. Woodworth.
9. *Lake Superior*.		

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Horace W. Palmer,	Daniel C. Caughey.
2. *Huron*,	John D. McCord,	William Watson.
3. *Trumbull*,	Augustus Cone,	William Laird.
4. *Cleveland and Portage*,	George E. Pierce, D. D., James Shaw,	Isaac M. Page.
5. *Elyria*,	Eldad Barber,	Esek C. Bradford.
6. *Maumee*,	William W. Williams (4),	Solon L. Boughton. [6]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Russell D. Van Deursen.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Elias Thompson,	Matthew Newkirk (3).
3. *Franklin*,	Homer McVay,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto*,	E. Perkins Pratt, D. D.,	Wm. F. Willson, M. D. (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Llewelyn J. Evans, Wilbur McKaig,	Ed. D. Mansfield, LL.D., William H. Moore (2).
2. *Ripley*,	James W. West,	James N. Salisbury, M. D.
3. *Dayton*,	William M. Cheever,	Winslow S. Phelps.
4. *Hamilton*,	Ellis S. Weaver,	George W. Haire (3).

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John M. Bishop,	Moses C. Browning.
2. *Madison*,	Ninian S. Dickey,	James A. De Lavergne.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Hanford A. Edsom,	Lucius C. Walton.
4. *Green Castle*,	Ransom Hawley,	Henry G. Todd, M. D.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Edmund O. Hovey,	William T. Scott (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	Jacob Patch.	
3. *Logansport*,	Edwin Black,	Stewart T. McConnell.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	William J. Essick,	Benjamin W. Oakley.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	David H. Hamilton, D. D. (3),	Abner C. Hinton (2).
2. *Schuyler*,	Reuben K. McCoy.	
3. *Wabash*,	Joseph E. McMurray,	Ebenezer Cheeney.
4. *Alton*,	Caleb J. Pitkin,	John N. McCord,
	Charles F. Beach,	Isaac Scarritt.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Ira M. Weed,	Thomas Ware.
2. *Knox*,	Samuel Wyckoff,	Marcus B. Osborne.
3. *Galena & Belvidere*,	David R. Eddy,	Eliphalet S. Rose,
	Josiah Leonard,	John J. Buckley.
4. *Chicago*,	Alfred Eddy,	Hon. William H. Brown,
	William C. Dickinson,	D. R. Holt.
5. *Bloomington*,	Adam Johnston,	Amasa C. Washburn.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	George W. Elliott,	William M. Watt.
2. *Fox River*,	John B. Preston.	
3. *Columbus*,	Daniel A. Bassett,	Augustus P. Smith.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Asa Johnson (3),	William D. Moore.
2. *Keokuk*,	Aaron Thompson,	H. Scott Howell (2).
3. *Iowa City*,	Samuel J. Mills,	Samuel W. Sedgwick.
4. *Dubuque*,	Henry B. Holmes,	John Maclay.
5. *Chariton*.		
6. *Cedar Valley*,	Isaiah Reed.	[7]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	John Peck (3),	Amos D. Seward.
2. *Minnesota*,	Frederick A. Noble,	Hon. Sam'l J. R. McMillan.
3. *Winona*,	Sanford H. Smith.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	John Maclean,	Edwin Barnard (3).
2. *Lexington*,	Benj. B. Parsons, D. D.,	Joseph Lambrite (3).
3. *Northern Missouri*,	Latten W. Dunlap.	
4. *Kansas*,	James Brownlee.	

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*
2. *Sierra Nevada.*
3. *San José.*
4. *Washoe.*

XXIII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Thomas J. Lamar.	
2. *Kingston*,		John J. Dixon.
3. *Holston.*		

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly that met at Newark, N. J., in* 1864,	Rev. Milo J. Hickok, D. D., Mr. T. Charlton Henry.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,*	Rev. James Harper, D. D.
4. *General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America,*	Rev. Joachim Elmendorf.
5. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America,*	Rev. John A. Crawford.
6. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	
7. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*	
8. *General Conference of Maine.*	
9. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
10. *General Convention of Vermont.*	
11. *General Association of Massachusetts,*	Rev. James P. Kimball. [8]
12. *General Association of Connecticut,*	Rev. Benjamin J. Relyea.
13. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
14. *Union of Evangelical Churches of France,*	Rev. Theodore Monod.

The Committee further reported the presence, as duly authorized Commissioners, of the Rev. Thomas J. Lamar, of the Presbytery of Union, and Elder John J. Dixon, of the Presbytery of Kingston, Presbyteries of East Tennessee, formerly in our connection, and their application on the part of these respective Presbyteries to be recognized as members of this body. These, and other similar cases, were referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. Robert Adair, and Hon. William H. Brown.

The Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., of the Presbytery of Rochester, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. John Spaulding, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, and the Rev. James Shaw, of the Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed among the members.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, to receive the Synodical Records and the papers from the respective Presbyteries, as well as all other papers of an official character intended for the Assembly.

Ordered, As a Standing Rule of the Assembly, that a Standing Committee be appointed by the Moderator, to whom shall be referred the annual report of the Trustees charged with the care and disbursement of the Ministerial Relief Fund.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Henry W. Williams, John P. Crosby, and Samuel T. Bodine, as an *Auditing Committee.*

The First Presbyterian church of the city of St. Louis, Missouri, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly. The Rev. John Maclean, the Rev. Alfred Eddy, and Mr. Isaac Scarritt, were appointed to nominate a Committee of Arrangements.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [9]

Friday, May 19th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—George L. Prentiss, D. D., George E. Pierce, D. D., Lewis Kellogg, Eleroy Curtis, Russel S. Egleston, Daniel E. Megie. *Elders*—Gurdon Burchard, Moses Bristol, Charles Ogilby, Robert Ure, Esek C. Bradford.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Samuel T. Spear, D. D., William W. Newell, D. D., John M. Bishop, Samuel J. Mills, Reuben K. McCoy, Samuel Jessup. *Elders*—Hon. Samuel J. R. McMillan, Thomas Ware, James N. Salisbury, M. D., Joseph D. Clark, John G. Parker.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Robert Adair, Thomas R. Townsend, Hanford A. Edson, Charles F. Beach, Henry B. Holmes. *Elders*—Edward D. Mansfield, LL.D., John Maclay, Benjamin W. Oakley, William H. Skinner, Job Haines.

4. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Ezra E. Adams, D. D., Benjamin P. Parsons, D. D., Frederick R. Gallaher, Frederick A. Noble, John Tompkins, William Waith. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, Hon. William H. Brown, Lyndon A. Smith, M. D., John Knight, Augustus P. Smith.

5. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—William Adams, D. D., Daniel March, D. D., William M. Cheever, Eldad Barber, Wilbur McKaig, Ransom Hawley. *Elders*—Hon. Calvin T. Hulburd, Louis Chapin, John Endicott, Charles Holmes, Jr., Moses C. Browning.

6. *Education. Ministers*—Edmund O. Hovey, A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Llewelyn J. Evans, Samuel E. Wishard, Jonathan Copeland, Thaddeus B. McFalls. *Elders*—Hon. Thomas T. Flagler, Oliver E. Wood, Henry G. Todd, M. D., Isaac Scarritt, William D. Moore. [10]

7. *Publication. Ministers*—Azariah Eldridge, D. D., Sylvester Cowles, James B. Bonar, Elias Thompson, David R. Eddy, John Maclean. *Elders*—Albe C. Allen, John C. Gallup, M. D., Joseph W. Lester, Samuel T. Bodine, John McElroy.

8. *Church Erection. Ministers*—E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., George W. Elliott, Ninian S. Dickey, Alfred Eddy, Lewis F. Laine, Edward Stratton. *Elders*—John Lambert, M. D., Justus Townsend, James J. Dickerson, William Laird, Ebenezer Cheeney.

9. *Ministerial Relief. Ministers*—William R. Dewitt, D. D., Harvey Smith, Loomis Chandler, Augustus Cone. *Elders*—Ebenezer B. Jones, Albert R. Riggs, Stewart T. McConnell.

10. *Narrative. Ministers*—John W. Mears, Thomas B. Hudson, William H. Clark, Sanford H. Smith. *Elders*—Philo Clark, M. D., John H. Phelps, Solon L. Boughton.

11. *Mileage.* *Elders*—John P. Crosby, Samuel Stringham, Winslow H. Phelps.

12. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—William W. Newell, D. D., J. Ford Sutton, John B. Reeve, Horace W. Palmer. *Elders*—Lucius C. Walton, Amasa C. Washburn, Amasa D. Seward.

13. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—John B. Preston, George W. Mackie, John L. Swain, John C. Taylor. *Elders*—Andrew Parker, Adam C. Eckfeldt, Joseph Francis.

Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany.* *Ministers*—Samuel Whaley, Ebenezer H. Stratton, John D. McCord. *Elders*—Samuel E. Hart, James A. De Lavergne.

2. *Synod of Utica.* *Ministers*—John D. Wells, Charles E. Stebbins, J. Allen Maxwell. *Elders*—Lorin Coy, William H. Woodworth.

3. *Synod of Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Edwin D. Newberry, Homer McVay, Joseph E. McMurray. *Elders*—Marcus B. Osborne, William M. Watt. [11]

4. *Synod of Geneva.* *Ministers*—William H. Babbitt, Albert H. Gaston, William J. Essick. *Elders*—George W. Knowlton, Martin S. Phinney.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—Jacob Patch, Daniel A. Bassett, Adam Johnston. *Elders*—Daniel W. Sedgwick, Zephaniah C. Platt.

6. *Synod of Genesee.* *Ministers*—Jotham Sewall, Charles Chapman, William H. Megie. *Elders*—La Fayette Moore, Samuel Hazard.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—William S. Dickson, Isaiah Reed, Ellis S. Weaver. *Elders*—Hon. Nicholas M. Masters, Jared E. Warner.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—James B. Beaumont, James M. Dickson, Edwin Black. *Elders*—Edgar A. Phillips, Luther Sturtevant.

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Edwin Benedict, Warren Mayo, Charles H. De Long. *Elders*—John M. Roe, Absalom P. Chatham.

10. *Synod of Michigan.* *Ministers*—Charles Gillette, Horace H. Allen, Charles H. Thompson. *Elders*—Levi H. Harroun, Albert N. Brown.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Joseph N. McNulty, Russell D. Van Deursen, Latten W. Dunlap. *Elders*—John J. Buckley, John N. McCord.

12. *Synod of Ohio.* *Ministers*—William C. Dickinson, Samuel Wyckoff, James Brownlee. *Elders*—George McChain, William McGibbon.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Ira M. Weed, Moses E. Dunham, Irving L. Beman. *Elders*—Abraham Merritt, John N. Sayre.

14. *Synod of Indiana.* *Ministers*—Aaron Thompson, David Abbey, John Wesley Whitfield. *Elders*—James Deans, William Watson.

15. *Synod of Wabash.* *Ministers*—Josiah Leonard, John B. Preston, Benjamin B. Parsons, D. D. *Elders*—Daniel C. Caughey, Daniel D. McMartin.

16. *Synod of Illinois.* *Ministers*—Robert Adair, J. Ford Sutton, Eldad Barber. *Elders*—Isaac M. Page, Daniel Uber.

17. *Synod of Peoria.* *Ministers*—Jonathan Copeland, John Tompkins, John C. Taylor. *Elders*—Louis Chapin, John H. Phelps.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Samuel E. Wishard, Charles F. Beach, Sanford H. Smith. *Elders*—Solon L. Boughton, John Endicott.

19. *Synod of Iowa.* *Ministers*—John M. Bishop, Henry B. Holmes, Ira M. Weed. *Elders*—Eliphalet S. Rose, D. R. Holt. [12]

20. *Synod of Minnesota.* *Ministers*—William M. Cheever, William H. Clark, Eleroy Curtis. *Elders*—Ebenezer B. Jones, John C. Gallup, M. D.

21. *Synod of Missouri.* *Ministers*—Lewis Kellogg, James B. Bonar, William Waith. *Elders*—Nicholas M. Masters, Jared E. Warner.

22. *Synod of Alta California.*

The Records of the Synods were presented and referred to the respective Committees appointed for their examination.

The Narratives, Statistical Reports, Overtures, and other papers of the Presbyteries, were received and appropriately referred.

The annual reports of the Permanent Committees on Foreign Missions, Education for the Ministry, and Home Missions, were read, accepted, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 2, from the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, asking that the heading of "Contributions to Foreign Missions" in the Statistical Tables be changed to read, "Foreign Missions;" recommending that the change requested be made.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee further reported Overture No. 4, as follows: "Is it within the province of the session to excommunicate, without formal trial, a church-member, who makes a written confession of having embraced heretical views. and in consequence having violated covenant by long-continued absence from the ordinances of the church, and who requests to be cut off from the church?" The Committee recommend, that the party asking the above question be referred to the Book of Discipline, Chap. 4; and such session be urged to follow strictly the order laid down therein.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee further reported Overture No. 5, as follows: "May a Presbytery authorize its Stated Clerk, during the intervals of its sessions, to grant, at their own request, letters certifying the regular standing and dismission of its members to join other ecclesiastical bodies in connection or correspondence with the General Assembly?" The Committee recommend, that the above question be answered in the negative.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the application of the Commissioners from the Presbyteries of Kingston and Union, East Tennessee, reported, recommending the reference of the matter to the Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [13]

Friday, May 19th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The annual reports of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and of the Trustees and the Treasurer of the Presbyterian House, were read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met in 1864, at Newark, N. J.; from the Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from the Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church; from the Rev. Chester Fitch, Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. Edmund F. Waldo, Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. George W. Warner, Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church; and from the Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Delegate to the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Special Committee, appointed by the last Assembly on the relation of Unemployed Ministers to the churches among whom they reside, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

By the last General Assembly which met at Dayton, Ohio, the undersigned were appointed a Committee, to consider and report upon the following resolution, (see Minutes, 1864, p. 462:)

"*Resolved*, That the subject of the relation of unemployed ministers to the churches among whom they reside, and whom they may be desired and are disposed to serve as ruling elders, be referred to a Committee, to consider and recommend what action can and ought to be taken by the Assembly, for removing the constitutional restriction which prevents the employment of such ministers in the service of the Church as ruling elders; and report to the next Assembly."

The "constitutional restriction" referred to is found in the Form of Government, Ch. XIII, 2; where it is said, that persons elected to the offices of ruling elder and of deacon must, "in all cases," "be male members in full communion in the church in which they are to exercise their office." By the practice of our Church, ministers are not members of any particular church, and therefore cannot be eligible to the above offices. [14]

The case might be reached constitutionally in one of two ways. The first would be an alteration of the above rule, making an express exception in respect to "unemployed ministers;" but this would involve the infelicity and inconvenience of holding two offices, and would require adjustments of other parts of the Constitution.

The other mode would be the adoption of a constitutional provision, allowing, in certain well-defined cases, the demitting of the ministerial office. While some of your Committee are inclined to this course, yet they do not think it expedient to recommend it for adoption, without further discussion, and more specific instructions from the Assembly.

At the same time, your Committee are unanimously of the opinion, that any church has a right to avail itself of the experience and wisdom of such unemployed ministers. While it cannot directly invest such ministers with the office of ruling elder, yet it may, by a formal vote, request them to take part in all the deliberations of the session. What is desirable in the case may thus be gained, without any violation of constitutional provisions.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with, until the close of the sessions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported in respect to the commissions of the Rev. Thomas J. Lamar, of the Presbytery of Union, and Elder John J. Dixon, of the Presbytery of Kingston, Tennessee. The report was accepted, and, after statements by the Rev. Messrs. Sawyer and Lamar, was, by a rising vote, unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, the Presbytery of Union, at a duly-called meeting, held in September last, and the Presbytery of Kingston, at a similar meeting, resolved, by the unanimous vote of the members present, to re-connect themselves with this Assembly, from which they withdrew in 1857, and have requested us to receive them:

Resolved, That this Assembly hereby recognize the Presbyteries of Union and Kingston as constituent parts of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and that the name of Rev. Thomas J. Lamar, as a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Union, and the name of Elder John J. Dixon, as a Commissioner [15] from the Presbytery of Kingston, be added to the Roll of this Assembly.

And, since it is exceedingly desirable that these Presbyteries should have their synodical relations, as heretofore, within the State of Tennessee, and as, in consequence of the disorganized state of many of the churches, and the disloyalty of a number of the ministers formerly in connection with us, it is impracticable to secure this object at present by the ordinary methods of ecclesiastical action; and whereas, the following ministers and churches have expressed a desire to be in connection with us;

Therefore, *Resolved*, 1. That the Rev. Rufus P. Wells and Rev. Nathan Bachman, together with the Rev. Samuel Sawyer, of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, are hereby constituted the Presbytery of Holston; that the churches of Greenville and Timber Ridge be placed under the care of this Presbytery; that the bounds of said Presbytery be the same as those of the former Presbytery of Holston; that the Presbytery meet at Greenville, Tenn., on Friday, August 4th, 1865, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and be opened with a sermon from Rev. Rufus P. Wells, who shall act as Moderator until another be chosen.

Resolved, 2. That the Presbyteries of Union, Kingston, and Holston, are hereby erected into the Synod of Tennessee; that the boundaries of said Synod shall be the same as those of the former Synod of Tennessee; the Synod to hold its first meeting at New Market, Tennessee, on Thursday, October 12th, 1865, at 11 o'clock A. M., and be opened with a sermon by Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, or, in case of his absence, by the senior minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator be chosen.

Resolved, 3. That, in case the Presbytery of New River, now in connection with the "United Synod," shall elect to belong to this Synod as thus constituted, said Presbytery shall be recognized as a constituent part of said Synod; in case it does not, then the bounds of the Presbytery of Holston be so enlarged as to embrace any churches and ministers, within the bounds of said Presbytery of New River, that may elect to unite with us.

Resolved, 4. That these Presbyteries be directed not to recognize or admit, as a member of their respective bodies, any minister known to be disloyal to the Government of the United States.

A communication was received from "The New York Sabbath Committee," expressing their desire to present a copy of "Gilfillan on the Sabbath" to each of the pastors in connection with the General Assembly. The offer was accepted, with the thanks of the Assembly; and the Rev. A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Rev. James B. Beaumont, and Hon. William H. Brown, were appointed to confer with the Committee concerning the method of distribution.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [16]

Monday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. David H. Hamilton, D. D., Rev. James B. Bonar, and Messrs. William H. Moore and George S. Frost, were appointed to bring in a report expressive of the views and feelings of the Assembly on the present *State of the Country.*

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 10, asking that the Presbyteries of the Pacific Coast be more fully aided in bearing the expenses of their Commissioners to the General Assembly. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Assembly expresses its hearty sympathy with the Presbytery presenting the above memorial. It is eminently important that Presbyteries having the care of feeble congregations, and located at great distances from the usual places of the meetings of the General Assembly, should, nevertheless, be represented by Commissioners. To make provision for such representation, the Assembly that met in 1857 adopted a plan for securing adequate funds for defraying the expenses of the General Assembly. (See Minutes, 1857, pp. 399, 400). In this plan the Standing Committee on Mileage, annually appointed, is required to "estimate, and report the probable amount that will be needed to defray the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners, and the contingent expenses of the next succeeding Assembly, together with the rate" of assessment, *per capita*, upon the communicants under the care of each Presbytery, that will be adequate for this purpose. According to this plan, each Commissioner is required to present to the Committee on Mileage a bill of "his necessary traveling expenses and mileage." Such bills, having been audited by the Mileage Committee, are directed to "be paid as fully as the funds will permit, after appropriating an amount sufficient to defray the contingent expenses of the Assembly." If, therefore, the Mileage Committee properly estimate the probable expenses of the next succeeding Assembly, and fix the proper rate for raising adequate funds, and the Presbyteries contribute according to this rate, the object sought in the memorial will be gained. The plan, if efficiently applied, is entirely adequate for this purpose. The Assembly, therefore, instructs the Mileage Committee, in its estimate of the expenses for the next Assembly and rate of contribution, to make in the latter a full and adequate provision for the former. The Assembly, moreover, urges upon all the Presbyteries the great importance of this subject, and earnestly exhorts them to see to it, that the churches under their care make prompt contributions to defray the expenses of the General Assembly, according to the plan now in use. These expenses should not fall upon the Commissioners, but upon the Presbyteries rep[17]resented by them. To the churches under their care these Presbyteries must look for the necessary funds. Let each Presbytery do the work assigned to it, and the present plan will meet the difficulty better than any other which the Assembly can devise.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The obligation to extend the Gospel throughout the world springs from the nature of Christianity itself, the relations of the Church to the human race, and the express command of our divine Lord.

Those periods in her own history, in which the Christian Church has been engaged most zealously in the diffusion of the Gospel, have been the most remarkable for her own purity, prosperity, and power. All the great changes which have occurred in the world, reformatory of evils and indicative of a real improvement of the race, are traceable directly to the historic person of Jesus Christ, and, therefore, should stimulate all his followers to give the widest extension to his Gospel among all nations.

In examining the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, already submitted to the Assembly, the attention of the Standing Committee has been directed chiefly to two things: first, the correspondence of that Committee with their missionaries in foreign lands, who still retain ecclesiastical relations with this body; a correspondence which evinces, in every region where these our brethren are resident, new claims, new opportunities, and new encouragements for augmented energy in that cause which they represent. And, second, the valuable tables, compiled by the Committee, representing the amount contributed by the several Synods, Presbyteries, and churches connected with this body, in aid of Foreign Missions.

While it appears from the tables, that there has been a considerable increase in the aggregate of contributions for this object from these churches, during the year ending May, 1864, the Committee regret to say that, during the same period, a large number in our connection have contributed absolutely nothing to Foreign Missions. Many of these churches, it is known, are themselves feeble, planted, perhaps, in the new settlements; and in need, to some extent, of assistance in their own support. But it is hard to conceive of any church, in a country like this, in circumstances so depressed that it cannot give something, in testimony of the grateful regard in which the Gospel is held by themselves. Paradoxical as it may seem, the true method of keeping the Gospel is to give it away; and no Christian Church can afford, for its own sake, to withhold all sympathy and all contributions from those who are entirely ignorant of the Gospel and the Son of God.

The Committee would recommend the following resolutions: [18]

Resolved, 1. That the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be adopted.

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly recognize the obligation and the privilege of every constituent part of the Christian Church to impart to others, as providential opportunities may permit, the knowledge and blessings of the common salvation.

Resolved, 3. That this Assembly gratefully acknowledge the conspicuous favor of Divine Providence toward the A. B. C. F. M., in its good and great work of propagating the Gospel throughout the world, and pledge to that institution our cordial co-operation and support.

Resolved, 4. That the form of organization adopted by the Presbyterian Church, with its extended supervision over ministers and members, and its regular reports and statistics, is specially favorable to systematic action in regard to this and every other endorsed form of Christian benevolence; and, therefore, it is recommended to all Presbyteries, not only to arrange for an annual contribution to Foreign Missions in every church under their care, but also for an annual report of the sums thus contributed, whether great or small.

Resolved, 5. That this Assembly extend to all the ministers and members of Presbyterian churches, who have left their native country to plant the institutions of our religion in foreign lands, the assurance of our fraternal remembrance, sympathy, love, and prayers.

Resolved, 6. That the recent events on our own continent, imposing new obligations in reference to our own territorial domains, instead of absolving us from the work of evangelizing the distant heathen, present additional inducements to engage in Christian propagandism, by reason of the signal favors vouchsafed to us as a people in times of calamity, the great resources at the command of the nation, and especially that it may be known to all people in what an estimate the Gospel is here held, as the source of all our blessings, personal, domestic, and national, the fountain of light, life, liberty, enterprise, righteousness, prosperity, and peace.

Resolved, 7. That Rev. George Duffield, D. D., John A. Brown, Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., and Rev. T. Ralston Smith, whose terms of service expire, be re-elected to the same office for the term of three years.

Resolved, That the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions in each Presbytery, or, if there be no such Committee, the Stated Clerk, be instructed to report, on or before the first of May, to the Permanent Committee of the Assembly, the amounts contributed by the churches to Foreign Missions during the current year.

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be instructed to send a circular, before the first of April of each year, to the Standing Committee or Stated Clerk of each Presbytery, requesting statistics on this subject. [19]

The Rev. John A. Crawford, the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, then addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported in reference to Overture No. 1, being a request that the General Assembly give its testimony respecting the guilt of treason, as incurred by the ministry resident in the States recently in rebellion; and further, that the Assembly suggest to the Presbyteries upon what terms and in what way ministers, who have thus been guilty of treason, should, if at all, be received by them.

The report, having been amended, was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The Assembly regards the matter referred to in the Overture, as of the gravest and most solemn character. Civil society is, in the Scriptures, expressly declared to be an ordinance of God. Its agency is some form of human government; and to this government the subject thereof is bound to yield obedience, except in those cases in which the higher law of God directly intervenes to cancel the obligation. To disobey the civil law, unless required to do so by the law of God, is alike a crime against the State and a sin against God; rendering the offender justly amenable to punishment.

These principles so abundantly asserted in the Scriptures, and so obviously true at the bar of right and reason, apply with special emphasis to that form of disobedience which is treasonable, which seeks to subvert government, which attacks the very life of a nation, and gives rise to disorder, anarchy, and civil war among the people. Resistance to the civil authority in this form, and for this purpose, is, in the judgment of this Assembly, the highest crime against the State as well as "a most grievous sin against God." The specific case referred to in the Overture, presents the crime and sin of treason under its most aggravated conditions. It is treason against a popular government containing within itself the most ample means for the peaceful redress of all possible grievances. It is treason without any provocation, justification, or excuse. It is treason designed and planned to perpetuate and extend the iniquitous system of human bondage. It is treason, too, his[20]torically attended with barbarities and outrages on the part of its authors and abettors, alike shocking to the civilization of the age and repugnant to the principles of Christianity. To suppress and destroy this treason, as an organized military power, has involved the sacrifice of thousands and tens of thousands of human lives, and filled the land with the deep wail of affliction and sorrow. Such a treason this Assembly regards as involving criminality in its most appalling form. The justice of God, the honor of law, and the safety of civil society imperatively demand, that it should be suitably punished by the judicial power of the nation, in the infliction of penalty upon its guilty authors.

That the ministers of the Gospel resident in what have been designated as the Rebel States—men professing to believe in the Bible, and to honor its principles—should have shared in the guilt of this treason, making themselves parties thereto, giving to it their public influence, aiding and abetting the same, seems, to the Assembly, one of the most astonishing moral perversions to be found in the history of this fallen world. And yet that such has been the fact in the States hitherto in rebellion is too obvious to admit of reasonable doubt or denial. These ministers the Assembly can view only as, in this thing, most grievous sinners against the God of heaven.

In view of the principles and opinions thus expressed, the Assembly most earnestly exhorts all the Presbyteries under its care, to consider this subject, and take such action thereupon as shall accord with the Word of God. In the event that any of the ministers, referred to in the above Overture, shall apply for admission into these Presbyteries, the Assembly advises the Presbyteries not to admit them, or in any way recognize them as ambassadors of the Cross of Christ, until they have given satisfactory evidence that they have sincerely repented of this sin. The details of this advice, the manner and ways of giving it practical effect, the Assembly must, for the present, leave with the discretion and wisdom of the Presbyteries; yet the Assembly cannot forbear to express the hope that the Presbyteries, in the spirit of true loyalty to their country and their God, will so act in the premises, as to convey the clearest and most undoubted condemnation of the treason, which has clothed this land with the habiliments of sorrow. Let the religious sense of the Church, in her pulpit ministrations, and through the action of her judicatories, mark this sin as of the deepest dye.

The Assembly in thus answering the Overture, has no specific case before it for a definite and special judgment, and has, therefore, submitted the answer in this general form.

The Records of the Synods of Michigan, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Wisconsin, Peoria, Onondaga, Utica, Minnesota, Wabash, Iowa, Susquehanna, Ohio, West Pennsylvania, Cincinnati, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Albany, Indiana, Geneva, Western Reserve, and Illinois, were, upon the recommendation of the respective examining Committees, approved as far as written. [21]

The Committee appointed to audit the annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, reported that they had examined the same, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommended that it be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 13, as follows:

The Presbytery of Dakota has within its bounds the mission churches gathered from among the Dakota Indians. The missionaries laboring among these Indians have, for many years, felt the necessity of subjecting Indians to law, that they may enjoy the protection of the same for themselves and their property; but thus far they have failed to bring to bear such influences on Congress, and on the Indian Department, as to accomplish this most desirable and necessary object.

We are of opinion that a proper memorial from so large and honored a body as the General Assembly will not only be received kindly, but have its effect in this regard. We, therefore, ask you to prepare and forward such a memorial to the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, asking them to use their influence to procure the necessary legislation to secure this object; which is, first, declaring them subject to the laws of the United States, and the criminal laws of the State or Territory in which they may be found; second, making provision for the appointment and support of officers to enforce these laws.

The Committee recommended the appointment of a Special Committee to examine the subject referred to in the memorial, and report thereon to the next General Assembly. The recommendation was adopted, and the Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. William W. Newell, D. D., and Mr. Oliver E. Wood, were appointed such *Committee.*

After hearing further statements respecting the condition of the churches in East Tennessee, from the Rev. Messrs. Samuel Sawyer and Thomas J. Lamar, it was

Resolved, That to enter and occupy the field in East Tennessee, now reopened by Divine Providence, is the positive duty of the Presbyterian Church; and as a commencement of this work, the Home Mission Committee be instructed to designate, as soon as practicable. ten pastors in this communion, to spend the ensuing three months in serving the Church in that desolated field; and that said Committee is hereby authorized to advance the necessary traveling expenses of such pastors out of the funds of the Committee, and, if necessary, appeal to the churches to reimburse the requisite amount.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [22]

Tuesday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The first annual report of the Executive Committee charged with the care and disbursement of the Ministerial Relief Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee upon that subject.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Mileage, it was ordered, that the ordinary traveling expenses of the Commissioners of the Presbyteries of Dakota and Union be, for special reasons, paid out of the Commissioner's Fund.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report. Pending its consideration,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on Overture No. 9, making inquiry concerning the relation of persons received, by act of session, during the interval of such reception and the subsequent sacramental Sabbath. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

In answer to the several questions contained in the above Overture, the Assembly refers to the Form of Government, Chapter IX., section 6, in which the reception of "members into the church" is expressly specified as one of the duties and powers of the church session. For this purpose the session is the church, and its act of admission the act of the church. When, therefore, an applicant for admission by letter is received by a vote of the session, he is at once a member of the church, entitled to all the privileges, and subject to all the responsibilities, of this relation.

The same rule equally applies to candidates for admission into the church on a profession of their faith. The vote of the session is the essential and final act by which they are thus received, and needs no subsequent action of the church to give it reality or validity. The administration of baptism according to the word of God, in the case of unbaptized persons, must, of course, be involved in, and attendant upon, this sessional act, either at the time, which would be entirely proper, or at a subsequent period appointed for this purpose. The session, if thus choosing, may prescribe a public profession of faith before the whole church as a convenient usage, and for this purpose may employ a church con[23]fession and covenant. This is the practice with many sessions, and, where this practice is adopted, it is proper that the officiating minister or clerk of the session should report a statement of the fact in accordance therewith, and that the report should be formally entered upon the records of the session.

It is well, however, to remember, that the confessions of faith and covenants in use among local churches, though regarded by many as convenient and useful, and certainly sanctioned by a very prevalent usage, are nevertheless not essential to the organization of a church, or the establishment of membership therein, since they are not the authoritative standard of faith or practice in the Presbyterian Church. Such confessions and covenants, with the accompanying form of a public profession, may or may not be used, as shall seem most expedient to the session. Whether used or not, the vote of the session is, by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, the act on which the membership depends, and, in all cases, the records of the session should be made to correspond with this fundamental principle of the polity of the Church.

These principles cover all the points submitted in the above Overture. Their application is simple, and hence the Assembly sees no occasion for giving a more detailed and specific answer to the several questions presented for its consideration.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The report of the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their report, which was accepted.

Pending the consideration of the subject, adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 24th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was resumed.

The report, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows: [24]

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, having given careful attention to the matters intrusted to them by the General Assembly, namely, the fourth annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, a memorial from the Presbytery of Cayuga, statements made by brethren invited to our sessions, and to other papers bearing on the interests of the Home Mission field, submit the following report of facts and topics demanding the special regard of this General Assembly.

The present condition of the Home Missionary operations of our Church, as set forth in the report of the Permanent Committee, affords peculiar ground for thankfulness and encouragement. The increased contributions of the churches to this cause during the year covered by the report, amounting to about $16,000 over and above the sum reported to the General Assembly of 1864, the addition of twenty-five efficient laborers to the number previously in the field, and the interest manifested by many of the brethren present in the manifold claims and bearings of the work, evince a growing purpose in the Church to put this branch of our Christian agency in the first rank of influence and honor.

The dawn of peace, affording us ample opportunity to enter and occupy new and broad regions before substantially closed against our direct action; the return to our denominational fold of Presbyteries in Tennessee, constituting an important agency in the work of ecclesiastical and Christian reconstruction there; the addition during the year of 2300 souls to our mission churches, of whom, 1300 were won from the world to Christ, are facts which may well call forth our devout and grateful ascriptions of praise to God. They indicate that the cause has, measurably, overcome the obstacles which beset its incipient stage of action, and warrant for it, we believe, a steady and sure ascent to strength and permanence. They seem to assure us that our Permanent Committee have the wisdom to manage, our churches the benevolence to sustain, and our missionaries the devotion and constancy to undertake and carry on the work intrusted to their hands; and better still, that the Divine Spirit owns and blesses the great undertaking.

Your Committee would call the attention of the General Assembly to the extent of the field now claiming their missionary action. The Territories of the West and Northwest, whither multitudes resort for the purposes of material enterprise, constitute a vast empire, being rapidly filled with earnest men, and destined, in the course of half a century, to possess a population of many millions. Besides these, there are fourteen States, whose institutions, social, educational, and religious, have been not only disturbed, but destroyed, by the great conflict. Enterprise is there to be revived and credit restored, lands are to be cultivated, houses rebuilt and again inhabited, villages now deserted to be repeopled. schools reopened and churches again occupied, not by the disloyal and treasonable, but by men and women who love their country and their God, and who seek the messages of life from loyal lips. [25]

In some localities there will be a natural and spontaneous return to social order, and to wonted Christian duties and privileges. While it is the province of the State governments, aided by the United States authorities, to restore civil rule and relations, to encourage industry, sustain law, and reassure the people in their hopes and efforts for reconstruction, it is the solemn and imperative duty of the Church to help them in their return to Christian order and activities; to encourage and aid such as are, or shall be, desirous of establishing again the institutions of religion; to stimulate to this duty those who may be indifferent; to extend the hand of Christian sympathy and ministries to all of every color and race as opportunity shall offer, or by earnest seeking shall be found. In this work the Permanent Committee of the General Assembly are specially called to engage, by the fact that in the Southern States the genius of Presbyterianism finds a generous welcome. And they are greatly encouraged to undertake it by the recent action in Tennessee, whereby Presbyteries have returned to us and been joyfully received, constituting an entire Synod, through whose agency the Home Mission work may be happily begun and continued in that State.

In the judgment of your Committee, this General Assembly has the opportunity of inaugurating and perpetuating a mission work for our country, far greater than ever before offered itself to any Christian body in the land. The most strenuous and persistent devotion, labor, and self-sacrifice are demanded of our churches for the salvation of society in the South and West—indeed, throughout the land—from the evils into which, as the result of war and the sudden disbanding of armies, it has fallen.

The demoralized condition of the States over which the wave of treason has rolled can be cured only by the presence and power of Christian truth; and the work to be done demands all our resources of intelligence, of benevolence, of wisdom, and of faith. But we may have the great honor of helping to lift our population to the highest moral altitude, of being laborers together with God in the work of national regeneration.

The spiritual wants of this great field are appalling. In Missouri, for example, are regions fifty miles in extent without a house of worship. The population, both white and black, is debased. The children remain untaught, and are growing up in ignorance and sin, as they are also in other States over which the fury of war has raged. The masses of the people need, at once, an agency which shall awaken them to the demands of mental and religious culture, and supply them with a power which shall lift them to pure and happy Christian citizenship, and save them for eternity.

In view of these facts, your Committee most earnestly reiterate their conviction that upon this General Assembly rests the burden of a tremendous responsibility, which it cannot, without criminality, evade; which it must meet. It is for us to understand and feel "the logic of events," the purpose of Providence in this great [26] hour, to adopt measures and utter words which shall awaken the whole Church to the claims of home evangelization, and result, by the blessing of God, in the vastly augmented operations of our Permanent Committee for the renovation of our country.

It is a matter of great perplexity and sorrow, that so few young men are ready to give themselves to the hardships of the home missionary work. We may be allowed to express the hope, that our Presbyteries and churches will make it a chief and constant duty, to induce godly and able young men within their influence to prepare for this sublime and most honorable service, to imitate the fathers in Christian enterprise and self-sacrifice. They are needed at the frontier.

In view of the great destitution of ministers of the Gospel, while fields are opening and "white for the harvest," your Committee would respectfully suggest that lay-helpers of proper qualifications be employed in visiting from house to house, explaining the Word of God, exhorting to faith and righteousness, distributing religious literature, and doing the necessary and preliminary work in the organization of churches where the same may be practicable; such helpers to be selected, commissioned, and recommended by Presbyteries to the Permanent Committee for appointment.

The Committee, moreover, recommend that the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions appoint an agent or agents to visit the Southern States for the purpose of organizing churches among freedmen, and, if possible, of finding and employing ministers of their own race to labor among them in word and doctrine, and to do all that the necessities of the case in connection with this great subject demand. And we invite our churches to offer special contributions to the Committee for this branch of their work.

In order that the members of our churches may be better informed with regard to the operations of all our Committees, especially that they may be prompted to larger benevolence and nobler effort in behalf of Home Missions, the Committee would express their belief, that there is indispensable need of a monthly periodical, which shall contain facts and information fitted to promote intelligent action for this cause; and we do hereby recommend that this Assembly, in accordance with the action of the last Assembly, direct that such periodical be, as soon as possible, established.

We wish to assure our devoted missionaries, that the Permanent Committee desire and endeavor to meet their applications for support with all fairness, and to manifest, as they certainly feel, a tender sympathy with them in their trials. And we would urge our churches more frequently and fully to express their interest in these brethren, by sending them books and clothing and other gifts, which will greatly relieve their wants and cheer their hearts.

On the memorial from the Presbytery of Cayuga, regarding the condition of feeble churches "in the older settled parts of our [27] country," your Committee recommend that the Presbyteries unite as many such churches as practicable under the care of one pastor, and that they send missionaries to labor among those which cannot be thus united. This is a matter of serious importance, and ought to receive immediate and earnest attention.

The Committee have carefully considered the subject of missionary labor among Freedmen. We hail with joy the fact, that our Permanent Committee have already a flourishing mission for this class of our fellow-men at St. Louis. And we deem it to be the duty of the Committee, to establish like missions among the African race in our land wherever opportunity shall offer, and to institute such Christian relations with them as may be formed with the white population in the South, depending on the piety and liberality of our churches for the means of supporting such a work.

In conclusion, we express our solemn conviction, that the most earnest prayers of the whole Church should be offered unto God, for men and means to accomplish the good work of Home Missions already purposed and begun by this General Assembly.

We recommend the election of the following persons as members of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions for the full term of three years: Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, Rev. T. Ralston Smith, and Messrs. J. Milton Smith and George W. Lane.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 25th, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education was resumed. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education report, that the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education presents encouraging evidence of a steady and vigorous advance in their noble work.

This evidence is found in the enlarged number of students under patronage, and the increased liberality of the churches. There is encouragement, also, and cause for thankfulness in the increased vigor and enlarged facilities of our Theological Seminaries, and other institutions for Christian education. Never has there been a period, when money has been so freely poured out [28] for these institutions, as during the four years of the dire conflict with rebellion.

But the Committee are deeply impressed with the alarming fact, that the number of candidates for the ministry is so largely disproportionate to the necessities of the churches, and more especially so, when we consider the vast missionary field laid open as one of the results of the civil war now closed.

Of the thirty-five Presbyteries from which young men under the patronage of the Committee have been reported, twenty-two have but one each, and eight but two each. There has been an advance in the number of churches contributing to the educational fund; but, if the churches were imbued with the spirit of missions, and fully up to the demands of the age, would they not all—instead of one-third only—give their aid to this great work?

The work of the Committee is threefold—first, to seek out and bring forward to the ministry the pious young men of our churches; second, to afford pecuniary aid to all who need it; and third, to elevate to a higher tone of piety and consecration all our candidates for the ministry.

But as the source of power, in all these respects, is in the ministry and the churches, the Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly having adopted and tested a plan for increasing the ministry, it devolves upon the Presbyteries and churches to carry it out and render it effective.

Resolved, 2. That, in view of the loud call of Providence at the present time for a great increase in the number of earnest and faithful ministers of the Gospel, pastors and elders be enjoined to make this a subject of earnest presentation to all the churches.

Resolved, 3. That, as no native talent or high mental culture are alone sufficient qualifications for the ministry, most persevering and believing prayer should be offered on behalf of our candidates for the ministry, that the Great Head of the Church would, by the power of the Holy Spirit, call and qualify them to preach the Gospel.

In accordance with suggestions of the Secretary of the Permanent Committee.

Resolved, 4. That as it is embarrassing to the Permanent Committee not to know the amount of funds to be relied upon, it is desirable that the cause of Education should be presented at a favorable time in the earlier part of our ecclesiastical year, and never, if possible, be deferred beyond the Sabbath immediately previous or succeeding the day of prayer for Colleges.

Resolved, 5. That the second rule of the Manual be stricken out, and that the third and fourth rules be united in one, so as to read as follows:

"It is recommended that the young men to be aided by the Assembly's Committee be placed, as soon as practicable, under the care of the Presbyteries within the bounds of which they have their church relation, and that they remain under their care [29] till they receive licensure; and, in case of any necessary change in their presbyterial relations, it be made with the approval of the Permanent Committee."

Resolved, 6. That the Permanent Committee be authorized to increase the amount of appropriations, not to exceed thirty-three per cent., and that it be left to their discretion to limit the amount to be received from all sources.

The names of the following persons are presented to fill the vacancy occurring by the expiration of the term of office in the class elected in 1862: Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, Walter S. Griffith, Charles A. Davison, and Ezra M. Kingsley.

The Rev. Benjamin J. Relyea, the Delegate of the Association of Connecticut, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Whereas, Through the wise and timely agency of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, which had its origin in the darkest portion of our educational history in the new States, so many of our institutions of learning have been aided in their infancy, and not a few saved from absolute ruin, or raised from a state of feebleness, or peril, to one of strength and of readiness for efficient action in the new age now opening upon the nation; therefore,

Resolved, That the great services which the Society has thus been enabled, by the Divine blessing, to render to the cause of Christian learning at the West, deserves a grateful recognition by this Assembly.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 25th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the first annual report of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, appointed by the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, respectfully report: That they have heard with deep and painful interest the report of the Executive Committee, and, in view of the pressing necessities of our disabled ministers, and of the widows and orphans of ministers deceased, submit the following resolutions for the adoption of the General Assembly: [30]

Resolved, 1. That the attention of church-members be directed to the straitened circumstances of many of our faithful ministers, who, having toiled for many years on small salaries, are now left, in the decline of life, without adequate means for the support of themselves and families.

2. That every Presbytery be directed to appoint a Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the necessities of disabled ministers, and of the widows and orphans of those deceased, with a view of bringing the cases of such to the notice of the Executive Committee of the Relief Fund.

3. That the Presbyteries earnestly request the churches under their care to make annual collections for this fund, and that they encourage also, bequests and donations toward the formation of a permanent fund for this object.

The Judicial Committee reported on an Appeal, by William Fithian, for relief or redress against the action of the Presbytery of Chariton, that, under the circumstances as stated by him, the General Assembly has no jurisdiction in the case; they therefore recommend that the appeal be dismissed. The report was adopted.

The Rev. Milo J. Hickock, D. D., and Mr. T. Charlton Henry, the Delegates of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met at

Newark in 1864; the Rev. Joachim Elmendorf, the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America; and the Rev. Theodore Monod, the Delegate of the Union of Evangelical Churches of France, addressed the Assembly, and were severally responded to by the Moderator.

Written communications were received from the Rev. Alfred E. Ives, the Delegate of the General Conference of Maine, and the Rev. Horatio N. Burton, the Delegate of the General Convention of Vermont.

The following minute and resolution were adopted:

The Assembly having listened with great interest to the address of the Rev. Theodore Monod, the Delegate of the Union of Evangelical Churches of France, recognize that body of Christian brethren as one holding with us the independence of Church and State, and essentially the same system of Protestant and Reformed theology; and especially as having sympathized intelligently and cordially with our native land in its recent trials and struggles; therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly commend the Rev. Theodore Monod, and the object which he represents, to the confidence and liberality of the churches under its care.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [31]

Thursday, May 25th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and united with members of the churches of this city, in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After the service, adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Friday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The Committee on the distribution of copies of "Gilfillan on the Sabbath," reported a satisfactory method of such distribution, and the report was adopted.

The Rev. James P. Kimball, the Delegate of the General Association of Massachusetts, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The Rev. William I. Buddington, D. D., obtained leave and addressed the Assembly in behalf of the "American Union Commission."

A communication from the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met at Newark in 1864, was received, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection presented their report. Pending its consideration,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. James Harper, D. D., the Delegate appointed by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church to open a correspondence with this body, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator. Thereupon it was

Resolved, That a correspondence be instituted with the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, on the same terms as with other Corresponding Bodies.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was resumed. The report, with amendments, was referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Azariah Eldridge, D. D., Rev. Alfred Eddy, Rev. John M. Bishop, and Messrs. Edward D. Mansfield, Henry W. Williams, Oliver E. Wood, and Samuel J. R. McMillan. [32]

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom were referred the thirteenth annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication, and the eleventh annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and so much of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions as relates to the subject of publishing a periodical, together with certain other papers, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find, in examining these documents, among other reasons for congratulation and gratitude, these strikingly prominent; that the publications issued during the past year, as to both number and volume, are considerably more abundant and important than those of any former year; that the funds at the disposal of this department are largely enhanced, the collections and donations having increased in amount, the $50,000 fund been completed, and the most of it paid in, while the sales of our publications have advanced from $22,000 in round numbers, the previous year, and $16,000 the year before, to $36,000 the past year; that $9,000 have been applied by the Publication Committee, according to the direction of the last Assembly, toward liquidating the incumbrance of $20,000 upon the Presbyterian House; and that, in accordance with the action of that Assembly, a promising commencement has been made for the relief of disabled ministers and of the families of those deceased in our connection. May this branch of Christian duty be faithfully and vigorously prosecuted, until we cease to be reproached, in this regard, whether by our own consciences or the example of those in other denominations.

Upon the basis of such facts as these, we may turn to the future with new resolution and fresh hope.

Among the points to be emphatically mentioned, in the judgment of your Committee, is first, the great need of Sunday-school books, that shall come to us with the *imprimatur* of our Church. Why should not the Publication House be preparing to issue many such as are of unquestionable character, so as to meet the demands of time, and keep pace with the developments of the future? Those of the American Sunday-School Union are many of them excellent; those from various other sources are, some of them, very good, and answer their purpose well enough, but those sources are outside, and that purpose we do not always understand; while we have wants which are no less distinctive and important. And should we not have a source of our own to look to, for the best possible material on which to feed and bring up the children and youth in our Sunday-schools? It is time that we were thoroughly equipped, and, at all points, ready for the great and glorious work before us.

As to the periodical, in reference to which a former Assembly took some favoring action, it would appear from statistics that a monthly, such as was contemplated, might prove too expensive at [33] the present time, while one less frequently issued, for example, on each alternate month, would perhaps accomplish the object in view. The Committee would, therefore, recommend, that the Permanent Committees of the Church consider the subject of publishing some such periodical, which they may unite in supporting, in proportion to the space they require, and the funds at their disposal. But in this connection a word upon pressing the circulation of such religious newspapers as the New York *Evangelist*, the *American Presbyterian*, and the *Central Christian Herald*. These are our denominational organs. And we should do more than has been done to push them in advance of all others, and even to the exclusion of some which have stolen in where they do not belong. Outspoken efforts to set ourselves right before the people, and keep the principles that we love fresh in the hearts of those who are with us, but are many of them being insidiously perverted, are absolutely necessary. The importance of this matter at the West as well as the East, wherever religious papers from without are getting into our families, cannot be well overrated, and should be watchfully acted upon.

But the burden of our report concerns the great need of more earnestness still on the part of us all, ministers, elders, and members, in sustaining the Publication Committee, and urging on the Publication cause. The condition of affairs in the Church, the new fields opening Southward, the peculiar exigencies of the transition period into which we are passing as patriots and Christians, conspire to enhance the importance of this department of the work, and strides of progress should at once be prepared for and attempted. The collections and donations ought to be increased without delay, and every church in the connection, if not every individual, regularly forwarding their contributions. Nor will money alone answer. Unless the publications are circulated, it will be locked up in them, and the wheel stopped at the fountain. There will come stagnation at the Publication House, and the shelves groan under useless burdens, while destitute thousands hunger and thirst for suitable religious reading. The publications must go forth. The circulation must be kept up and immensely extended. As a denomination, we believe in the press. Let us, then, show our faith by our works. We love sound doctrine and sweet Christian narrative becomingly arrayed in print; we feel the necessity now laid upon us of giving our full share of influence to the controlling forces, which form society and shape the future; and let us act up to these sound and wise convictions. The religious literature which we have, and which we can, as a denomination, produce, must be thrown into the work. By individual efforts, by ecclesiastical action, by presbyterial arrangements and agencies, we must take strong hold of the people and the age. Let us not flinch or falter. It is the good work of the Lord. By every proper means our duty is to quicken, deepen, and extend the flow of these wholesome publications to the remotest bounds and all over the field. Let the hearts and hands of the [34] Publication Committee be relieved and stimulated; the immense power of the Church drawn out, and her infinite resources developed, in response to the importunate cries of the time upon which we have fallen, and in harmony with the wonderful providence of God among us in this land.

In conclusion, the Committee would offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the churches be recommended to increase their contributions to the Publication cause, with a view to more extended and thorough operations, and with special reference to affording facilities for the gratuitous distribution of tracts and books among the Freedmen.

Resolved, 2. That the Presbyteries be recommended to appoint unemployed ministers within their own bounds to explore the field, and act as colporteurs in circulating the books of the Publication Committee.

Resolved, 3. That the recommendation of the last Assembly, that a monthly periodical be issued by the Publication Committee as a medium of communication between the Church and its Permanent Committees, in the support of which these Committees shall unite in proportion to the space they may require and the funds at their disposal, be renewed.

The Committee recommend, that Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, and Mr. William E. Tenbrook, whose term of office now expires, be re-elected as members of the Permanent Publication Committee for the ensuing three years.

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, to report on the relations of the Church to the Religious Press, presented a report, which was adopted and is as follows:

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, to report on the relations of the family Religious Newspaper to the Church, find that the subject committed to them claims now, for the first time, the attention of the General Assembly. This is not, however, because the Assembly has not appreciated the value and power of the press as an instrument of evangelization; for in 1846 it appointed a Doctrinal Tract Committee, which has grown into a Permanent Committee of Publication, with a capital of $50,000, and a long list of valuable tracts and books.

The Assembly has also from time to time commended the *Presbyterian Quarterly Review* to the confidence and patronage of its churches; and finally, last year at Dayton, authorized the publication of a monthly periodical as the organ of the Permanent Committees. But it is patent to every man, that the newspaper has a wider and deeper influence upon the members of our congregations than tracts, books, or quarterly reviews. It comes nearer than any of them to the living preacher, in the time and manner of its ministrations. Hence, if the press is to be recog[35]nized by the Church as an instrumentality for good, supplied to her by the providence of God, she ought to take a deep interest in the most popular and influential of its issues—the newspaper; and try to use it so as to promote the good of men and the glory of God. Thus far there can be no difference of opinion. But how shall the Church manifest its interest, and try to use the newspaper? Here there is great diversity of opinion and feeling.

The Methodist Episcopal Church early took the religious newspaper under its denominational patronage and control, established papers, appointed publishers and editors, and made all its itinerants *ex officio* newspaper agents. The growth, compactness, and power of that great denomination show the wisdom of this policy. Yet, even in that Church, there have been some who rebelled against this arrangement, as abridging freedom of discussion and the liberties of the people, and independent papers have, from time to time, been springing up.

In our own Church, there has been a great deal of presbyterial and synodical action on the subject of newspapers. Those which have been considered organs of the churches in particular sections have been commended, and our ministers have labored hard, and often gratuitously, to sustain them. One paper has been owned and controlled for more than twelve years by the four Synods of Ohio, Indiana, Cincinnati, and Wabash, associated together for that purpose; and the results of the experiment have been satisfactory. Have all these experiments by other churches, and by our inferior judicatories, developed light enough on the subject, to show us that the Assembly can and should do anything in the premises?

The facts briefly are: We have three weekly newspapers that are recognized as representing the denomination. They are located in three of our principal cities; they are all equally loyal to the Church, and not rivals but co-workers in promoting its interests. These papers have all toiled hard, and sacrificed much for the Church; not one of them could be spared; all of them should be liberally supported by our congregations. One or more of them ought to be in every family that attends our Sabbath preaching; they are among the most efficient co-workers that our ministers can have.

Yet, with a membership of about 140,000, representing, at a low estimate, 50,000 families, it is probable that nearly, or quite, 30,000 families connected with our churches take none of the papers that are loyal to us as a denomination. Do they take no religious paper? Probably half of them do not, and read only secular papers; the other half take papers that are not loyal to us, and thus their attachment to the Church is weakened or undermined.

It seems to your Committee, that the General Assembly should not regard such a state of things with indifference, that as a "bond of union, peace, correspondence, and mutual confidence," as organized to promote "charity, truth, and holiness," (Form of [36] Govt., p. 375,) it should at least send forth to the churches an expression of its views, should encourage those who are laboring to advance its interests, and should strive to save its people from influences that are secularizing or schismatic. We, therefore, propose for the adoption of the Assembly the following resolutions:

1. That the *Evangelist*, *American Presbyterian*, and *Christian Herald*, and other weekly newspapers which are connected with our Church, be requested, if agreeable to them, from time to time to inform the Assembly of the number of copies taken by families connected with our denomination, to the end that the Assembly may take such action, as it shall deem best for its own interest, to extend their circulation.

2. That the Assembly earnestly exhorts the families of its congregations, to subscribe for and read one at least of the papers published for us as a denomination, regarding the influence of such a paper as second only to that of the preached Word, in the moral and spiritual culture of the Christian household.

3. That in view of the influence of the periodical press, the vast amount of popular newspaper reading that is demoralizing, the ministers of churches connected with the Assembly be requested to preach on the subject, particularly impressing upon church members the duty of being loyal to the denomination in this respect, and the duty of parents to provide the right kind of papers for their children to read.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the State of the Country reported an extended minute, which, after amendment, was, by rising vote, unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The Special Committee on the State of the Country would present the following minute for the adoption of the Assembly:

At the commencement of this rebellion, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States took its position decidedly and strongly in support of the Government. Regarding the forcible secession of the Southern aristocracy as treason against a most beneficent government; as treason aggravated by the fact, that not a single right of the South had been invaded; and as treason rendered peculiarly malignant and wicked by the fact, that it was committed with the avowed purpose of sustain[37]ing and perpetuating the system of Slavery—a system in direct opposition to the Gospel and the principles of religious liberty;—the Assembly condemned it, in the name of God, and pledged to the Government a hearty support in the effort to crush it. Each succeeding Assembly reiterated this action. Our churches with entire unanimity responded, by word and deed, to these sentiments. Our record as a Church we commit to the calm judgment of posterity, in the full assurance that there is neither a line nor a word the Christian patriotism of the future will desire to erase; not a single sentiment befitting our relation to this great conflict, it will find unexpressed.

And now, at its triumphant conclusion, this Assembly devoutly recognizes the good hand of God, which has sustained us, as a nation, through four years of war unparalleled for its magnitude in all the past, and given us victory in such a manner as to illustrate the power and excellence of our free institutions, when sustained by a virtuous and intelligent people, and the deep malignity of that spirit of absolutism which has sought to overthrow them. We gratefully recognize this providence, in strengthening the patriotism of the people to vindicate the national unity and freedom, by the sacrifice of treasure so immense, and blood so noble and precious; in giving us for a leader one so wise, unselfish, patriotic, and reliant on His divine power and purpose in His own time to vindicate the right and crush the wrong; in surrounding him with men of an earnest and steady patriotism, wise in counsel, and energetic in action; and in raising up skilful generals and admirals to lead our brave troops to victory. We rejoice with exceeding joy in that Divine Sovereignty, which has given to us, in the midst of war, such material prosperity; which has inspired the benevolence, that has poured forth its means, to care for the temporal and spiritual wants of our noble soldiers, to endow our institutions of learning, relieve our churches, to so great an extent, from the incumbrance of debt, and sustain our Christian enterprises for the conversion of men. "Not unto us, O Lord—not unto us, but unto thy name" be the "glory." Nor would we neglect to thank Him, that, in answer to the prayers of Christians throughout the world, He has delivered us from foreign conflicts, that might have imperilled or protracted the successful issue of this war.

We wonder at, and admire especially, the Divine wisdom manifested in educating the nation through the successive stages of defeat and victory, through the unparalleled atrocities perpetrated, and the amazing malignity illustrated, by the leaders of this rebellion, up to the purpose of utterly rooting out and destroying a condition of society so utterly hostile to the elevation of man and the spirit of the Gospel. While we would humbly confess and forsake the sins which have deserved the Divine chastisement, we thank God, that through suffering he hath taught us to abhor the sin, at the same time that he hath laid, in the hearts of the people, the foundation of a truly national trust in him as our [38] only sovereign. and hath prepared us to spread, over all the continent, the noblest civilization that the world has ever known.

In the sad event which has clothed the nation in mourning, which has stricken down, in the full maturity of his powers, and the height of his usefulness, one of the noblest of men, to whom it was given of God, to accomplish a work, for this nation and the cause of humanity, unsurpassed in the grandeur of its character and the magnitude of its issues, by that of any of his most illustrious predecessors, we recognize the same wise Providence, which, looking far above our feeble vision, permitted the existence of Slavery and the rise of this rebellion, and which, in this last act of baffled and defeated despotism, has illustrated its debased and malignant spirit so as to excite the loathing, horror and abhorrence of the World. In his life, he struck the chains from the trembling limbs of millions, vindicated the rights of humanity, and illustrated the glory of a patriotism made strong and pure by devout confidence in God; in his death, he touched the chords of sympathy deep in the heart of universal man, and won over to our holy cause every true lover of his race, every soul in which dwells the hope of freedom.

To his bereaved widow and family, this body would express our sympathy in this great affliction, common to us all, but resting most heavily upon those so nearly allied to him, assuring them of our prayers, that to them may be granted the consolations of the Comforter, and in them these trials may bring forth "the peaceful fruit of righteousness."

In Andrew Johnson, so unexpectedly called to the chair of our martyred chief, the Assembly recognize a man distinguished for a long course of earnest effort to elevate the masses, and for a steady, consistent patriotism, that neither the power nor the favor of a treasonable oligarchy has been able successfully to assail or seduce. We desire to pledge to him, as our constitutional Chief Magistrate, our confidence and support in his efforts to vindicate the majesty of law; maintain the National Government in its just supremacy; destroy the spirit, and counteract the workings, of the evil system that created this war; inspire a just appreciation of the crime of treason, and a true loyalty to the Government, in the breasts of the masses of the white population of the South; and extend to the colored citizens of that section, the practical enjoyment of those personal and political rights announced in the Declaration of Independence, but denied to them by a despotic aristocracy. And, while this Assembly deem it not their province to counsel our rulers in respect to political measures, we possess both the right, and regard it as our duty, to state distinctly that, in our opinion, a nation like ours, whose corner-stone is equal rights, cannot permanently prosper, nor be exempt from future convulsions, unless the principles of civil and religious liberty are fairly carried out and fully applied, with only just and healthful limitations, without reference to class or color, to all the people.

For his personal safety, guidance, and support, we invoke the [39] blessing of God; and we exhort our ministers and churches, since God, by this war, hath taught us the necessity, and impressed upon us more deeply than ever before, the duty of prayer for our rulers, to remember the President and his counselors, in their petitions to the throne of heavenly grace. We exhort them to sustain him in the just exercise of his authority, to judge charitably his measures and acts, and, in the exercise of a magnanimous and Christian patriotism, encourage him in the peculiarly difficult circumstances in which he is called to act in our behalf.

In the state of this nation consequent on this war, this Assembly recognize not only what God has done, but what he has prepared the way for us to do, as a Church of Christ, in elevating the people. The words of the laureate of England, written years ago, as if in anticipation of our great struggle, are full of significance:

"Let it go or stay, so I wake to the higher aims
Of a land that has lost for a little her lust of gold,
And love of a peace that was full of wrongs and shams,
Horrible, hateful, monstrous, not to be told;
And hail once more to the banner of battle unrolled!
Though many a light shall darken and many shall weep
For those that are crushed in the clash of joining claims;

> Yet God's just doom shall be wreaked on a giant liar,
> And many a darkness into the light shall leap,
> And shine in the sudden making of splendid names,
> And noble thought be freer under the sun,
> And the heart of a people beat with one desire;
> For the long, long canker of peace is over and done."

These burning utterances were prophetic of our condition as a nation. God's just doom has been wreaked on the giant hypocrite, who held in one hand the Declaration of Independence, and in the other the hammer and manacles of the slave auctioneer. And in doing this He has made noble thought freer under the sun. He has opened half a continent to a free gospel and free schools. He has imposed on us the responsibility of giving this free thought to these emancipated millions. As our Church—republican and apostolic in its order and its doctrines—is, in the main, best fitted to create a free, intelligent, stable, Christian manhood, in harmony with our civil institutions, and the progressive spirit of the nation, so it is for us to enter the field God has opened for our labors; to establish churches and schools, and thus assist the civil authority in bringing order out of chaos, while we secure for the people the higher influence that saves the soul. If, with a self-sacrifice and an energy proportioned to our resources, and the vast work prepared for us, we address ourselves at once to its performance, we shall make our Church a light to millions, and be crowned as wise and faithful servants of our Lord. But, if we are neglectful of these great interests, we shall incur the guilt of the unfaithful servant, and God will use other instruments to effect his glorious purposes.

Not only is it true, that this war has prepared the way for us [40] to effect great things for the South, it has also imposed on us responsibilities for the correction of wrong here at home. The wrong class of legislation in one part of the Union, the bitter fruit of hostility to our Government, and the degradation of vast multitudes it has borne, has shown us that a bad principle, however concealed for a time, will work mischief both to the State and the Church. The heart of the people has thus begun to beat with a desire to remove all such inconsistencies, wrongs, shams, and hypocrisies from our own legislation. If we fight, or ask justice, for the African in the South, we must act justly towards him at the North. Neither the law nor the Gospel, when rightly understood, will permit us to exclude, from the rights and privileges of freemen, those who are citizens like ourselves, many of whom have imperiled their lives in this conflict. It is for us, as Christian patriots, to recognize men as men, both in the Church and in the State. And, since, in this high ecclesiastical court, we have given to the nation and the world a signal illustration of the justice that we advocate; since here intelligence and piety are recognized, as the only necessary qualifications in him, who is chosen to represent the ablest ministers and the noblest churches in the land, we can consistently exhort the members of our churches to apply, to the fullest extent of their influence, the same principles in their relations to the State. Let it not be said that, as a Church, we have nothing to do with civil legislation. The day has gone by, when an intelligent Christian will affirm the doctrine, that what is wrong in religion is right in politics. God has taught us, in this war, that the Church must conserve the State, by instructing the people in the great principles of justice, and inspiring them to practise the same. Without the teaching and the inspiration of the Church, the patriotism of this nation would never have nerved itself for the persistent and heroic defence of freedom (and this is but another name for justice) which has crushed the treason that sought to assassinate the State. We wish all men to know that the members of our churches are bound to be Christians, in politics as well as in religion. God hath made us responsible according to our numbers and our intelligence, for the welfare and healthful legislation of the State. To meet this responsibility, our Christian patriots must exert themselves to influence the primary meetings for the nomination of fit men; to secure the election of good, pure men to office; and, when nominated themselves, to remember the duty of assisting their country and illustrating both their piety and patriotism by consenting to serve her.

Nor would we fail to express our sympathy for those truly loyal and Christian people at the South, who, at the cost of great personal trial and suffering, have stood firm for the Union; and also the duty of the Church to care for and sympathize with our wounded soldiers, and the widows and orphans whom this war has bereaved.

Let our Church, which has heretofore been honored as a leader [41] in all good enterprises, now address herself to the good work to which she is called by her Divine Redeemer, both at the South and the North; let her seek to illustrate the Gospel in all her relations to society, as well as preach it to the multitudes that know not God; and His blessing will be upon her; the heart of the people will beat in sympathy with her; the State, purged of its impurities and inconsistencies, will gradually rise to her level; her boundaries shall be enlarged, her churches be multiplied; the nation, grown wise and strong, shall rejoice in her influence, and myriads of souls, converted and educated for heaven under her living ministry, shall form the jeweled crown of her glory, where the ransomed of the Lord shall come to Zion, and Jesus, our King, shall make the kingdoms of this world the kingdom of our God.

The Assembly further directed that authenticated copies of the paper be sent to the President of the United States, to the members of the Cabinet, and to the family of the deceased President; and recommended that our ministers read it from their pulpits for the information of the people.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 17, the following memorial from 29 ministers and elders:

The undersigned, members of the Presbyterian Church and connected with this General Assembly, would respectfully represent, that, in their judgment, it is of the highest importance to the future religious, social, and political well-being of the people of this land, as it is in accordance with the law of righteousness, as expounded by God during the history of the Great Rebellion, that the Government shall promptly adopt such principles and measures, in the reconstruction of society in the revolted States, as shall distinctly recognize the rights of citizenship as inhering in every man, of whatever class or complexion, who is and has been true to the country and the flag. We, therefore, ask that the General Assembly will adopt such a deliverance, in regard to this great subject, as shall seem demanded by the circumstances of the country at this time.

The Committee also reported a paper in response to the memorial, which was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The memorialists, in the paper placed before the Assembly, ask this body to "adopt such a deliverance in regard to" the subject referred to, "as shall seem demanded by the circumstances of the country at this time." And, as there is no doubt in respect to "the rights of citizenship" as invested in loyal white people, the Assembly understands the memorial to have specially in view the case of the Freedmen. In their behalf, it asks for an expression of opinion as to their "rights of citizenship." The memorialists desire, that the Freedmen, irrespective[42]ly of the question of race or color, should be so completely enfranchised, as legally to invest them with all the privileges usually enjoyed by citizens of this country. This the Assembly regards as one of the gravest and most solemn questions of the age.

Such a people, with such a history, surrounded by such a train of providences, so large in number, so intimately connected with the great struggle from which the nation is now emerging, so patient and hopeful during the long night of their bondage, so truly loyal and faithful to the Government in this age of treason, furnishing such an important and eminently needed service to the country in the hour of its peril, many of them personal sharers in the salvation and grace of Christ, and all of them hitherto subject to disadvantages social, civil, and political, directly calculated to depress their humanity, degrade their pursuits, and prevent them from realizing their proper destiny as men, may well claim the attention of this Assembly. As to the duty of making the most strenuous efforts for their education, social elevation, and moral and religious culture,—the duty of giving them the Bible, preaching to them the pure Gospel, and in every possible way aiding them in becoming a blessing to themselves and the country, there can be but one opinion among all right-thinking people. The Assembly is happy to observe an increasing tendency among Christians to consider and perform this duty. God, in his providence, has opened the door; and he now invites his people to enter and reap a most plentiful harvest.

As to the specific question of bestowing upon this people all "the rights of citizenship" in the great work of reconstructing "society in the revolted States," referred to in the memorial, there may be an honest difference of opinion among good and loyal men. The memorialists believe, that the Government should "promptly adopt such principles and measures" in the reorganization of Southern society, as will speedily secure this result. They do not specify what these "measures" should be; but simply ask for the speedy accomplishment of the end. The Assembly, without undertaking to define the ways and means most proper to be adopted for this purpose, heartily concurs with the memorialists in the end sought. The Assembly, moreover, believes that the sooner this end is gained, the better it will be for all classes. That the colored man should, in this country, enjoy the right of suffrage in common with all other men, is but a simple dictate of justice. The Assembly cannot perceive any good reason why he should be deprived of this right on the ground of his color or his race. Why, then, should not the black man "in the revolted States," who is and "has been true to the country and the flag," thousands and tens of thousands of whom have fought for that country and flag, be at once included among the loyal persons, upon whom shall devolve the task of reconstructing Southern society? This the Assembly thinks to be the shortest and safest method of solving the problem, most certain [43] to gain the result and prevent future evils. So large a population cannot, in the state of freedom, be long kept contented without the enjoyment of common civil and political rights. Possessing these rights, they will be in a position to be their own protectors. The enjoyment thereof will give them respectability, dignify their labor, elevate their desires, quicken their moral consciousness, and waken in their minds those hopes and high aspirations, upon which the proper development of humanity so largely depends. Possession of these rights is the quickest method of preparing them for their proper use. There can be no doubt of their loyalty; they are, and they have been, the friends of the Government; and in this they have shown more wisdom than most of their former masters. If these men are fit for the duties of the camp and the garrison as soldiers, the presumption is, that they are not less competent for the duties of citizenship. To this result, the country must come at last; and, in the judgment of this

Assembly, more will be lost than gained by any effort to postpone it. It is better to meet the question at once, and settle it in accordance with the rights of man, the principles of our political system, and the clear indications of Divine Providence. Any proper efforts of those in authority looking towards this result, will receive the warm sympathies of this Assembly; nor can the Assembly doubt that they will be ultimately sustained by the great majority of the American people.

It is not the purpose of the Assembly, in this deliverance, to argue this question at length, but simply to indicate its conviction in respect to the point intended in the memorial, and, if possible, to say a word that may serve to encourage the Government in the discharge of its difficult duties. The prayer of the Assembly is, that the Government may be guided by wisdom and justice, applying these cardinal qualities to all classes and all men; and that all the people, disciplined by Providence, and instructed by the trials of the past, may learn to practise that "righteousness" which "exalteth a nation."

The Assembly further directed that the paper be appended to the report on the State of the Country, to be sent, and read, with it.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 3, on the Reunion with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Assembly has given its careful attention to the Overtures from the Presbytery of San José, the Presbytery of Bloomington, and the Synod of Iowa. These Overtures refer substantially to the same subject: the first, asking the Assembly to "lose no time" in seeking to establish a formal ecclesiastical Reunion between the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, formerly united under one General Assembly; the second, asking the Assembly "to continue the friendly correspondence already estab[44]lished, and to take such further steps, as God in his providence may direct, for the ultimate Reunion of the two bodies;" the third, proposing that this question be submitted to the Presbyteries for an expression of their wishes, or that the "Assembly take such other action, looking to the immediate consummation of this important event, as in their wisdom shall seem best."

The Assembly is quite aware, that such Reunion is earnestly desired and sought, by many Christians and churches, in both branches. Both now better understand each other; an exceedingly cordial and useful fraternal correspondence already exists between the two Assemblies; and in all this the Assembly recognizes the presence and control of Christian feeling, so eminently becoming those who adopt the same Confession of Faith and the same Form of Government. What may be the duty of future Assemblies touching the subject referred to, it is not the province of this Assembly to decide; yet, as the facts now appear, the Assembly judges it inexpedient, to make any proposition to the other Assembly, contemplating the Reunion sought by the memorials. The other Assembly, in its past action, has expressed a similar opinion in answer to similar Overtures. Both Assemblies have organized vigorous systems for home and foreign evangelization; and both are prosecuting this work with commendable zeal. Both are spiritually co-operating in that fellowship of faith and service, which recognizes both as being "called in one hope of" their "calling," and as having "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all." Until Providence shall more fully develop the question, and thus indicate the course to be pursued, this Assembly judges it most expedient for itself to wait on Providence; meanwhile practising, towards the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, those tender and affectionate courtesies which belong to the Christian brotherhood, and exhorting all the ministers and churches under its care to do the same. In expressing this opinion, the Assembly does not mean to imply any judgment either for or against the Reunion proposed, but simply to leave the question open for farther consideration and light.

As to the wisdom of inviting the Presbyteries to express their opinions and wishes on this subject, the Assembly judges it most expedient to leave this point to their own spontaneous action. No action on the part of the Assembly is needed to place this question before the Presbyteries. If to them the proposed Reunion seems desirable, they will undoubtedly, in due season, make a full expression to this effect; and then the case will be so far developed, as to relieve a future Assembly or Assemblies, of all hesitation or uncertainty as to the general voice of the Church.

The same Committee reported on the communication of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, that met at Newark, N. J. The report was adopted, and is as follows: [45]

This Assembly, having listened with much pleasure to the communication made by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly that met at Newark, N. J., in 1864, and addressed to the Moderator of the General Assembly that met at Dayton, Ohio, in 1864, and heartily reciprocating the fraternal and Christian sentiments contained in this paper, directs the Stated Clerk to communicate to the Moderator of the General Assembly now holding its sessions at Pittsburgh, Pa., the action of this body on the subject of a Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, with the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, while omitting to adopt any specific proposition in respect to a Reunion of the two bodies as, perhaps, premature in the present state of the facts, nevertheless expresses its earnest desire, in all possible ways, to cultivate and "strengthen that unity of the Spirit," between the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, "which is so essential to organic unity," cherishing the confident hope that Providence will, at no distant day, indicate what is alike expedient for both, and most conducive to the glory of their common Head.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly has listened with great interest and profit to the fraternal salutations and utterances of the brethren beloved, who have addressed this body as Delegates appointed by the Assembly that met at Newark, N. J., in 1864; adding its earnest wish that this correspondence between the two Assemblies may be continued until "a still closer union" shall be formed, if it should be judged "best for the promotion of the glory of God and the spiritual interests of the whole Church."

The same Committee reported on Overture No. 11, concerning Theatres and Card-playing. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

In regard to so much of the above Overture, as refers to "theatres and theatre-going," this Assembly reaffirms the action of the General Assembly of 1818. [See Minutes, p. 690, and New Digest, pp. 262, 263.] In this action, the Assembly declared the theatre to be a "school of immorality." This Assembly, seeing no occasion to modify the utterance then given, earnestly exhorts all the members of the Church in their practice to avoid, and by their influence to discountenance, all such "dangerous" amusements, as being inconsistent with the spirit of the Gospel, and detrimental to the best interests of piety in the heart.

In respect to "the custom of fashionable card-playing," referred to by the memorialists, and represented as being "countenanced in many of our Christian households," and also "participated in by members of our churches," this Assembly would affectionately exhort all the members of the Presbyterian Church to practise the most careful watchfulness in avoiding all recreations and amusements, whether in the form specified in the memorial or otherwise, which are calculated to impair spirituality, lessen Christ-[46]ian influence, or bring discredit upon their profession as members of the Church of Christ.

Adjourned until Monday, May 29th, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 29th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committe on Mileage respectfully report:

That they have received, for the Commissioners' Fund	$6162.40
“ “ “ “ “ Contingent Fund	53.25
	$6215.65

Which has been disposed of as follows:

Paid contingent expenses	$1400.00	
Amount refunded the Presbytery of Dakota	26.20	
Paid discount on currency	3.30	
Paid Commissioners 61 per cent. of expenses	4786.15	
		$6215.65

The bills of necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners make an aggregate of $7848.15, leaving a deficit of $3062, equal to 39 per cent.

Ten Presbyteries have failed to pay to the Commissioners' Fund, four of which are the extreme western; and eight Presbyteries have paid from one-third to nine-tenths of their apportionment. The principal cause of the deficit is the fact that all the railroad companies of any importance have refused to make any concessions from full fare, and thus all the expenses of travel, as well as of printing and publishing, have largely increased, and, having an unusually large number of Commissioners from the distant West, our bills are very heavy.

It is evident that the old rate of assessment is entirely inadequate to meet expenses, while full fare is demanded on the railroads, and the Committee would recommend that the assessment be increased to six cents for each member.

The Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., the Rev. Frederick Starr, Jr., and Messrs. Russell Scarritt, George K. Budd, E. P. Freeman, Morris Collins, W. S. Barker, M. D., Edwin Barnard, and J. H. Parsons were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the [47] meeting of the next Assembly, with power to fill vacancies and to add to their number.

The Special Committee on Manses and Pastoral Libraries reported, and were continued until the next Assembly.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 18, concerning the church of Chattanooga, Tenn., and recommended the following minute, which was adopted:

The Assembly having heard the communication of the Rev. Samuel Sawyer, in reference to the Presbyterian church at Chattanooga, hereby appoints the Rev. Samuel Sawyer to convey to Major-General George H. Thomas, or the General who may, at the time, be in command of that department, the request of this body, that the edifice of said church, being repaired, may be put in possession, and under the direction, of the Presbyterian congregation desiring to use it for religious worship.

The same Committee reported on Overture No. 19. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Assembly, having received a certified copy of the Minutes of a large Protestant meeting, held at the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., May 23d, 1865, and composed of the members of the General Assembly now in session at Pittsburgh, and of "other friends of Protestant Christianity;" and being informed that the other Assembly will probably appoint a *Committee*, in accordance with the request of the meeting, hereby appoints a committee to co-operate with other committees similarly appointed, to consider the expediency of forming a *National Protestant Union*, or Organization of Evangelical Denominations, in this country, and report the result of their joint counsels and labors to the next Assembly; the said Committee to consist of the following persons:

Ministers.—Henry B. Smith, D. D., LL.D., and Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., of the city of New York; Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Newark, N. J.; Ezra E. Adams, D. D., Philadelphia, Pa.; John C. Smith, D. D., Washington, D. C.; Henry Darling, D. D., Albany, N. Y.; Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., Utica, N. Y.; Edwin Hall, D. D., Auburn, N. Y.; Henry Smith, D. D., Buffalo, N. Y.; Herrick Johnson, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Azariah Eldridge, D. D., Detroit, Mich.; D. Howe Allen, D. D., Cincinnati, O.; Robert W. Paterson, D. D., Chicago, Ill.; and Henry A. Nelson, D. D., St. Louis, Mo.

Elders.—Marshall S. Bidwell, LL.D., and John P. Crosby, Esq., New York City; Hon. Robert Denniston, Washingtonville, N. Y.; Lyndon A. Smith, M. D., Newark, N. J.; Hon. Daniel Haines, North Hardiston, N. J.; Matthew W. Baldwin and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.; Hon. Henry W. Williams, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jacob S. Farrand, Detroit, Mich.; [48] Edward D. Mansfield, LL.D., Morrow, O.; Hon. William H. Brown, Chicago, Ill.; and Hon. Horace Maynard, LL.D., Knoxville, Tenn.

The Standing Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, that met this year at Pittsburgh, Pa.*—Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, and Edward D. Mansfield, LL.D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principals; and Rev. David H. Hamilton, D. D., of the Presbytery of Illinois, and Mr. Isaac Scarritt, of the Presbytery of Alton, alternates.

2. *The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D., of the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, principal; and Rev. Alfred Eddy, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate.

3. *The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. Herrick Johnson, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, principal; and Rev. Addison Kingsbury, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pataskala, alternate.

4. *The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America*—Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; and Rev. Dwight M. Seward, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

5. *The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, principal; and Rev. John W. Mears, of the Presbytery of Wilmington, alternate.

6. *The General Convention of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. Charles S. Robinson, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; and Rev. James H. Taylor, of the Presbytery of Newark, alternate.

7. *The General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. John Spaulding, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

8. *The General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., of the Presbytery of Albany, principal; and Rev. Lewis Kellogg, of the Presbytery of Troy, alternate.

9. *The General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Daniel March, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Ezra H. Gillett, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

10. *The General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate. [49]

11. *The Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, principal; and Rev. Samuel Wyckoff, of the Presbytery of Knox, alternate.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No 15, being the following memorial of the Presbytery of Cincinnati:

Whereas, it is eminently desirable that the evils which have resulted from the division of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, so far as the feeble churches throughout the land are concerned, especially such of them as require missionary aid, should be speedily remedied; therefore,

Resolved, That this Presbytery memorialize the next General Assembly to take such action (the other Assembly concurring) as shall recommend and enjoin,

1st. That all feeble churches in the same village, within convenient access to a strong one of the other branch, shall seek to become united with such stronger church.

2d. That wherever two churches are organized—one of each branch of the Church—both of which are feeble. and need aid from abroad in sustaining the stated ministry of the Gospel, they shall unite, irrespective of the question of Presbyteries, and after union, connect themselves with whichever Presbytery the majority may prefer—

Provided, That no other mode of union and of Presbyterial connection, more satisfactorily to all concerned, shall suggest itself to the parties.

The report of the Committee, thereupon, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee are of the opinion, that the object aimed at by the memorialists is a good one, and the accomplishment of it, on some plan satisfactory to both parties, will greatly promote the peace and prosperity of Christ's kingdom. And, in order that a proper plan may be adopted, it is recommended to the Assembly, to commit the subject to the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, to consult with the Board of Domestic Missions of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, and report the result of their labors to the next General Assembly.

The same Committee reported on Overture No. 14. Their report, after discussion, was, with the Overture, referred to a Special *Committee* consisting of the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Hon. Joseph Allison, to report to the next Assembly.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection, presented a report [50] which was postponed to take up a substitute; which substitute was adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be directed to procure the written opinion of eminent legal counsel, as to the powers of the General Assembly in respect to the Church Erection Fund, especially in reference to the question, whether the Assembly, having received this Fund "as a special trust," and, in 1854, committed the custody thereof to a Board of Trustees, incorporated by a special statute of the State of New York, has the power so to alter the Church Erection Plan as to make an absolute gift of the increase of the Fund beyond the sum of $100,000, for the purpose named in the first Article of the Plan; and report the same to the next General Assembly, with the addition of any recommendations which they may deem expedient.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was then, after amendment, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Erection respectfully report:

That they have given as full and thorough an investigation to this whole subject, as their time would permit, and the importance of the subject seemed to demand. In accordance with a provision in Art. IV. of the original plan, they have availed themselves of the kind invitation of the Secretary and Treasurer, Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., to visit his office at 128 Broadway, N. Y., and examine the papers and books of record, account, and correspondence, and everything pertaining to the custody and care of this Fund; and they would hereby express the renewed satisfaction of the Assembly with the fidelity and wisdom exhibited, in the management of this sacred trust, by those into whose hands it has been committed by the churches. Not only has no portion of the Fund been lost, but it has been increased nearly $24,000. According to the Treasurer's report, the cash and securities on hand ready for immediate use are $73,637.85; and the amount of loans and donations outstanding and secured by bond and mortgage is $50,209.09. It may seem strange, that so large an amount of this Fund remains unappropriated in the hands of the Trustees, and is not doing the great work which its donors designed it to do. There has been a great falling off in the amount of appropriations within the last few years. This fact is undeniable. During the first year, from 1856 to 1857, the loans and donations amounted to $15,343; the second year, they were $10,625; the third, $12,050; the fourth, $10,550; from which time they have been regularly decreasing, until during the last year they amounted to only $2426. It is natural to inquire into the cause of this—why is it that so little has been appropriated from this large and constantly accumulating Fund? We find, by the report of the Secretary, that every application, during the past year, for a loan has been granted, and for a donation in each case where the regulations of the Plan were complied [51] with. But why have there been so few applications? One reason, and the chief, is doubtless to be found in the distracted state of the country, still engaged in the work, and in the fourth year of a gigantic civil war. This not only greatly taxed the resources of the country, but rendered property of this nature very insecure in many sections; and few consequently were disposed to engage in the enterprise of church-building. The same cause has operated to diminish the appropriations made by the Board of Church Extension of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church. They have decreased from thirty-one thousand dollars, in 1860, to seven thousand in 1863, and nine thousand in 1864; and this too when their Plan affords aid, not by loans, but by actual gifts.

That the true design and practical working of our system has been misapprehended, to some extent, by the churches, there can be no doubt; and that this has awakened prejudices against it, is equally certain. The use of the term "donation," where in fact a protracted loan is meant, was unfortunate. It is not really a donation, but a loan without interest, that may be protracted almost indefinitely, until the annual collections, however small, shall restore the whole amount to the Fund, to be again used for a similar purpose.

It cannot be too often reiterated, that this Fund was designed, and has been sacredly devoted by the General Assembly, as a Permanent Fund, to be used, together with all additions that may be made to it from whatever source, for one specific object, namely, the aiding of feeble congregations in erecting houses of worship. This fundamental principle of the Plan the Assembly has bound itself never to alter; and, on these conditions, and with this stipulation, obtained a charter, under which its Trustees for this Fund are working. If this were kept in mind, it would prevent many applications for aid, and memorials for changes, being sent to the Trustees, or the General Assembly.

It is not now an open question, whether this is the best possible Plan that could have been adopted to secure the object. It is the Plan, and, as to this fundamental principle, cannot be changed. Your Committee, therefore, agree with the report of the Trustees, that no portion of this Fund can be given away as an absolute gift, whether principal or interest. It is to work on for generations, carrying out the beneficent purpose of its donors. Neither can it be used for any other object. However desirable or important it may be, to erect costly houses of worship in our large and growing cities and centres of influence, this was not the design of this Fund. Nor can it be appropriated to repair houses of worship, unless such repairs may be fairly regarded as a reconstruction. As, under the operation of any general and comprehensive system, however beneficent, specific cases of hardship will occur, so we find them under this; but it is deemed neither wise nor benevolent to change the whole Plan to meet these exceptional cases. The complaints against its working are few; but one Presbytery, that of Bloomington, having sent an Overture to the Assembly; and [52] memorials from two churches, namely, the churches of Olathe, Kansas, and St. Joseph, Missouri; the former asking to be released from the debt on their house; and the latter for a loan or donation of $10,000; to enable them to build a house in that prosperous city; both of which are clearly beyond the province of the Assembly to grant. The memorial from the Presbytery of Bloomington asks, 1st, that all interest accrued and unpaid be remitted; 2d, that no part of a loan shall draw interest until due; 3d, that donations, in the present sense of the term, be made to the amount of $500; 4th, that the proceeds of the Fund may be employed in making real donations in special cases; and, 5th, that the Board of Trustees have discretionary power, with the advice of Presbytery, to extend the time of the loan in special cases. Some of these changes have been shown to be inadmissible, and the others your Committee deem inexpedient. Most, if not all, of the complaints come from those churches which have failed to meet their engagements; in some instances, from providential causes, and in others, it is to be feared, from culpable neglect.

The Assembly would again urge upon those Synods that are in arrears, during this time of material prosperity, to make strenuous efforts to liquidate their indebtedness. It is a gratifying fact, stated in the report of the Trustees, that a larger amount of this indebtedness has been paid during the past year than in any previous year, amounting in the aggregate to nearly $10,000.

As the chief cause, that has for four years retarded the appropriation of this noble Fund to its great work, is now happily out of the way; and, as prejudices against the Plan are removed by its being better understood, it is earnestly hoped, that greatly increased demands will be made upon it by the churches for whose benefit it was established. New and extended fields are now opening before us in which to plant churches, not only in the great West, but also in the South; and we are called by the providence of God to enter these fields, and take possession of them in the name of the Lord.

Your Committee would recommend that the apportionment of the Fund among the Synods be continued as at present arranged.

Your Committee nominate Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Stephen H. Thayer, Esq., for re-election to the places made vacant by the expiration of their term as Trustees of this Fund. Also Mr. George W. Lane to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. William E. Dodge.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [53]

Monday, May 29th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following persons were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund: Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Stephen H. Thayer, Esq., to serve for the full term of three years; and Mr. George W. Lane, for two years, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. William E. Dodge.

The following persons were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House: Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. William T. Eva, Mr. John C. Farr, and Charles S. Wurts, M. D.

Messrs. Oliver E. Wood, John P. Crosby, and Edward A. Lambert, were appointed Auditors of the Church Erection Fund.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, it was

Resolved, 1. That a paper prepared by the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, exhibiting the Testimony of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the sin, the evils, and the remedy of intemperance, be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes of this Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly reaffirms the Testimony of former Assemblies on this subject, and commends anew to all the ministers and churches under its care the principles and practice so fully embodied in this testimony.

On recommendation of the same Committee, the following paper was adopted:

The Assembly, being informed that the Ashmun Institute is making an effort to raise $100,000, for the purpose of enlarging its corps of teachers, and providing suitable accommodations for its students, would commend this institution to the confidence of philanthropists and Christians; and, also being informed that it is proposed to solicit funds in Great Britain, Scotland, and Ireland, for the full endowment of this College and Theological Seminary, the Assembly cordially commends this object, and respectfully asks the friends of the colored race in other countries, to aid American philanthropists and Christians in this good work.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be directed to issue a circular addressed to all the churches under the care of the General Assembly, inviting them to make contributions, during the present year, to a supplemental fund, to be gratuitously appropriated in aiding Church Erection, in accord[54]ance with the suggestions of the Trustees in their additions to the report of the Special Committee made to the last Assembly.

It was *Resolved*, That this General Assembly gratefully recognizes and records the kindly welcome and generous entertainment given by the citizens of Brooklyn to the Commissioners of this body; that we render special thanks to the beloved pastor and people of La Fayette Avenue church, for their good service in making arrangements for our sessions, and for their manifold attentions to our comfort; also, to the esteemed pastor and people of the First Presbyterian church of this city, for the pleasant excursion which they provided for us on the water; to the members of the press in Brooklyn and New York, particularly to the editor and reporter of *The Brooklyn Daily Union*, for their faithful reports of our proceedings; to the officers of the Long Island Historical Society, of the Packer Collegiate Institute, of the Five Points House of Industry, and of the American Bible Society, for cordial invitations to visit those institutions; also, to the railroad companies, who have granted the Commissioners a reduction of fare; and to our honored and beloved Moderator, for the prompt, cheerful, impartial, and able manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without leave: Messrs. Thomas T. Flagler, Edward Wells, and Joseph Francis.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the First Presbyterian church of the city of St. Louis, Missouri, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1866.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER,
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1865.

In presenting the annual view of the condition of the churches under the care of the Assembly, so far as reports from eighty-three out of the one hundred and eight Presbyteries on our Rolls make it practicable, we naturally regard, first, their outward, and secondly, their inward and spiritual condition.

I. THE OUTWARD STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Very great, perhaps unexampled, prosperity has characterized the external history of the churches, during the year just closed.

Church Edifices.

Seventeen Presbyteries report twenty-eight church edifices in progress, or recently completed. One of these, in Pittsburgh, is expected to cost $145,000. Several of the Western and Missionary Presbyteries report encouraging progress in this department; as Logansport, two; Galena and Belvidere, two; Wabash, three; Fox River, three; and Dacotah and Lexington, each one new building in progress or completed. The inadequacy of church accommodations is, however, severely felt, by some of our frontier Presbyteries. Cedar Valley, with fifteen churches, reports but two buildings, and another a still smaller proportion. Others report extensive repairs and improvements.

Church Debts.

The work of cancelling church debts continues. In the Presbytery of Newark, $30,000 of debt have been paid, and a fund of $8,000, for German church erection completed. In the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, four churches have been cleared of debt. In the Third and Fourth Presbyteries of Philadelphia, a general movement to relieve of debt all the churches in and near the city, has been finally completed. Five Presbyteries speak of the erection of parsonages.

Pecuniary Contributions.

In the matter of benevolence, many Presbyteries report an extraordinary advance, almost none a retrograde movement. Some contributions to leading causes have doubled, or even tripled, former amounts. Very few churches have found the multiplicity or urgency of outside calls, or the financial burdens of the country, a hindrance to the wonderful stream of beneficence that has flowed into the treasury of the Lord. The Presbytery of Scioto says: "Three-fourths of our young men are in their graves, yet we have never given more largely than in the past year." The Presbytery of Knox says: "We have stood by our country, and have been more benevolent than ever before." From the single church of Pittsburgh, Pa., $54,600 of contributions are reported, $12,000 going to the Christian Commission. The Presbytery of New York, Fourth, reports a total of $178,000; Philadelphia, Third, $210,000; the Presbytery of Monroe has more than doubled its contributions. The Presbytery of Genesee Valley says, theirs are unequalled in their history. The Presbytery of Catskill says: "The churches in our bounds are truly benevolent. The weakest, in this respect, are strong. All have learned to give, and that giving to the Lord does not impoverish them." The Presbytery of Illinois says: "The appeals for aid to objects, which the civil war has occasioned, have been met with a liberality which has no parallel in the past efforts of the Church in the cause of humanity." Many others speak of general and great prosperity, of heavy debts cancelled, of ministers' salaries increased, of churches becoming independent of Home Missionary aid; while even the most liberal admit, that we need still more of this Christian spirit in the future, and call for God's help to meet the increasing demands from abroad and at home. Our leading denominational enterprises have evidently grown rapidly in favor during the year. Thirty Presbyteries report a total of $834,884 of contributions, including two large church-building enterprises in hand and not completed.

The Loyalty of the Churches.

The loyal spirit of our churches is boldly reflected in the Presbyterial narratives. "Our churches and ministers," says one, "are unconditionally and unqualifiedly loyal to the national government, preaching, praying, voting and fighting for the suppression of the rebellion, and the restoration of the lawful and constitutional government over the whole territory known as the United States of America. The ethics of political action have been fully presented from the pulpit, and the duty of loyalty duly inculcated." Says another: "All our churches believe that treason is a crime which should be punished." Another: "Our life is bound up in the nation's life." And another, complaining of disloyalty within its bounds, says: "It exists chiefly among the vicious classes, and habitual neglecters of public worship." The dreadful crime which has robbed us of that great and good ruler, who habitually trusted in God and in the prayers of God's people, created deeper grief and horror nowhere than in the breasts of our own people. "We never," says one report, "wept so profusely bitter tears as when the devoted head of the nation was pierced by the demon of slavery."

Abolition of Slavery.

The joy and thankfulness, which would naturally burst forth at the complete triumph of the cause of union and freedom, have been sobered by this solemn and unparalleled event. But a note of exultation, to which all our hearts beat responsively, comes from the Presbytery of Northern Missouri, a State which, on the eleventh of last January, pronounced the immediate and universal abolition of slavery. "Our joy before God," says the narrative, "caused emotions of deepest gratitude." The future became bright with visions of a free State, free thought, free speech, free press, free schools, a free Gospel, and a free Church; freed from barbarous laws, oppressed humanity, despotic rulers, partisan agencies, social spies, secret informers, malicious prejudices, polluted ethics, abominable principles, a perverted Gospel, and a trammelled Church. . . . It has given us not only joy, but great confidence in God, and great boldness for the truth."

Intemperance, Profanity, and Sabbath-breaking

are very generally deplored as on the increase. Certain pursuits, in rural sections, as hop-picking and cheese-making, are specified as presenting unusual obstacles to the observance of the Sabbath. Special mention is made of our great railroad corporations, as deserving the severest censures of the Christian public, for bold and persistent violations of the Sabbath, in running their trains, and repairing their roads, on that holy day. An unusually large number of Presbyteries report the renewal of efforts for the suppression of Intemperance, several of them being undertaken with great promise of success among the young. The Presbytery of Long Island reports cordial support of the County Temperance Society, which has held monthly meetings of unwavering interest, and with excellent results for fifteen years. While the evil is undoubtedly increasing, we are cheered with indications, that the Church is extensively awake on the subject.

II. THE INWARD STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Revivals of Religion.

The most cheering feature of our year's history is the increased measure of special revival influences enjoyed by the churches. One hundred and thirteen are reported as having been graciously visited by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Most of the Presbyteries, which report no revivals strictly speaking, yet employ terms indicating an awakened, hopeful, and really revived spiritual condition. The prevailing tone of the Narratives is such as to gladden the heart, and call forth devout thanksgiving and earnest expectation of greater blessings in the whole Church. The Presbytery of Washtenaw, after referring to the distracting tendencies of the times, says: "It is remarkable that but one of the reports [from the churches] makes any allusion to adverse influences to religion on this account. On the contrary, our general religious condition calls out the public remark, that the cause of Christ, in these peculiar, these extraordinary times, is making more than ordinary advancement." One church in this Presbytery has enjoyed quickening influences the whole year; the young people of the congregation have been almost all reached. These precious influences have been felt in the remote parts of our Church, and upon our Home Missionary fields, in a cheering degree. In the State of Iowa, the Presbytery of Cedar Valley reports two; Keokuk, two; and Dubuque, one. In Minnesota, the Presbytery of Dakota reports one; and Winona, one, in which the pastor engaged in the apostolic work of open-air preaching. In Wisconsin, the Presbytery of Columbus reports six; and Fox River, two. In Illinois, the Presbytery of Schuyler reports one, in which more than a hundred souls have been hopefully converted; and Galena and Belvidere, three, one of which was unprecedented in the history of the church, resulting in sixty-seven additions. The Presbytery of Knox reports two. In Indiana, the Presbytery of Greencastle reports five; St. Joseph, five; Salem, four; Indianapolis, three; Madison, three; and Logansport, one;—twenty-one, in the two Synods of Indiana. In Michigan, the Presbytery of Coldwater reports three; Washtenaw, three; Detroit, several of great power and duration; Marshall, one; Saginaw, two; and Monroe, two. In Ohio, the Presbytery of Dayton reports two; Huron, two; Hamilton, five; Elyria, one; Franklin, one; and Cincinnati, four.

And, as if to add a crowning feature to the elements of interest presented by the redeemed fields of East Tennessee, God has owned the labors of our true brethren there, by a powerful revival in the church of Washington, in the Presbytery of Union, more than forty persons being hopefully converted, including many suffering refugees, and some interesting cases from rebellion at once against God and against the country.

In Detroit, the revival has reached the churches generally of different denominations and has been a movement of extraordinary power and fruitfulness. Says the Narrative: "The work has manifestly been of God; it has been precious and glorious, and is still in progress. Hundreds have been brought to the Saviour. Our members have gone heartily into the work. Sabbath-school children have come by scores to the cross." Four churches in Cincinnati, including the First German, have enjoyed great refreshings, resulting in the addition of one hundred and thirty-six members on profession. In one church, nearly the entire Sunday-school has requested prayer, and as many as one hundred scholars have remained for conversation.

All the churches of the city of Newark, and four others of the Presbytery, as many as twelve in all, report the enjoyment of special spiritual influences, and the addition of six hundred and twenty-four souls to the churches on profession.

Other Presbyteries reporting revivals are Rochester, "several;" Tioga, three; Genesee Valley, one, "more thorough and general than ever before in the history of the church;" Brooklyn, two; Ontario, two; Genesee, "several;" St. Lawrence, one; Watertown, two; Oswego, one; Otsego, four; Montrose, one, of great power; Wilmington, one; Champlain, one; New York, Third, two. The Presbytery of Troy reports two, one in Middle Granville, in the neighborhood alluded to some thirty years ago in the tract entitled "The Forty Years' Prayer-meeting." That same prayer-meeting has been sustained with little intermission, and might now be designated the "*Seventy* Years' Prayer-meeting." In the other case, the resident membership was exactly doubled, and the number of praying men quadrupled.

Sunday-schools.

In a very large number of these reports, the children of the church and of the Sunday-schools appear as prominent and frequently leading subjects of the work. Besides cases already referred to, sixty-seven of the Sunday-school in Ann Arbor arose to profess their hope. Another Presbytery says, three fourths of the cases of conversion came from the Sunday-school. The Presbytery of Galena and Belvidere says the largest part of those brought in were the children of believing parents, having been baptized in infancy and been blessed with Christian nurture. The Presbytery of Montrose speaks of instances, in which the children are maintaining meetings for prayer, where their tenderness, judiciousness, and earnestness appear far above their years. The Presbytery of Onondaga says: "A very large proportion of those converted and connected with the church have been gathered from the Sunday-school." The Sunday-school interest has been most assiduously cultivated by our churches during the year, and the influence of this department of labor upon the prosperity, spirituality, and growth of the church, has been remarkably propitious. The very decided action of the last Assembly on this subject has not been without its fruits.

Hopeful Aspects.

Very few of the reports are characteristically despondent. Several from the Eastern as well as the Western bodies deplore the scarcity of laborers, and a number complain of the want of settled pastors. Some suggest an itinerancy. Others speak warmly of the services of the presbyterial and synodical agents. One Presbytery mentions three formerly Congregational churches, which now, by their unanimous action, are fully Presbyterian in government and connection.

In fully appreciating the character of the period under review, we must remember that it covers the fourth and final year of our dreadful civil war, the most sanguinary and exhaustive of them all. The most trying year, in many respects, through which the Church and the country have ever passed, has proved, by the abundant grace of God, one of the most widely prosperous ever enjoyed. May not this fact be humbly accepted as testimony, granted by Providence, to the general faithfulness of the churches to the high principles involved and jeopardized, rescued and exalted, through our struggle?

Yet we may not hide from ourselves the fact, that evil is yet dominant in the hearts of men; that intemperance, profanity, Sabbath-breaking, and licentiousness, are fearfully prevalent; that the main work of the Church is yet to be done—even in Christian countries; that sinners are going by thousands, in their impenitency, to the bar of God; that the religious movement of the year in our Church has been little more than a ripple in the life of the community; that not more than one in twelve of our churches has been extensively revived. The grand lesson of the year is, not one of contented joyfulness, but rather of aroused and hopeful expectancy. Says the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third: "There is a growing expectation that the spirit of grace and supplication will be poured upon us in copious showers at no distant day." The Presbytery of Dayton says: "We shall be greatly disappointed if, in our report of next year, we cannot say: 'The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad.'" "Our churches," says the Presbytery of Oswego, "are walking in Christian harmony and love, anxiously looking for those pentecostal seasons which shall result in the conversion of the world to Christ." "Some of God's people," says the Presbytery of Troy, "are expecting, when the affairs of the nation are settled, a more copious outpouring of the Spirit than has been enjoyed for the last thirty years. Those who have faith look at the mercy-drops now falling as the prelude to an abundant spiritual rain."

Twenty-nine Presbyteries report two thousand and five hundred additions by profession.

DELINQUENT PRESBYTERIES.

The following Presbyteries have failed to send their Narratives to the Assembly: Utica, Ithaca, Delaware, Pittsburgh, (reported in part,) Grand River Valley, Lake Superior, Grand River, Maumee, Athens, Ripley, Fort Wayne, Alton, Chicago, Bloomington, Iowa City, Chariton, Minnesota, San Francisco, Sierra Nevada, San José, and Washoe.

MORTALITY.

The following ministers have died within the year:

John B. Shaw,	of the Presbytery of	Albany.
Levi Parsons,	"	Cayuga.
Azariah G. Orton, D. D.,	"	Cortland.
Samuel White,	"	Steuben.
Calvin McKinney,	"	Ithaca.
Daniel Van Valkenburgh,	"	Otsego.
Nathan Allen,	"	Buffalo.
Isaac Chichester,	"	Genesee.
John Dodd,	"	"
Nathaniel Hammond,	"	Genesee Valley.
Austin H. Wright, M. D.,	"	North River.
Frederick W. Graves,	"	New York, Third.
Peter Kanouse,	"	Rockaway.
Edwin E. Merriam,	"	Montrose.
Nicholas Patterson,	"	Wilmington.
Ambrose Eggleston,	"	Coldwater.
Veron D. Taylor,	"	Cleveland and Portage.
Evan Evans,	"	Franklin.
Samuel W. Bonney,	"	Cincinnati,
Edward McMillan,	"	Illinois.
Comfort I. Slack,	"	Des Moines.
William W. Woods,	"	Dubuque.
James B. Townsend,	"	St. Louis.
Abram Blakely,	"	Kansas.

By order of the General Assembly.

JAMES B. SHAW, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Report of Delegates to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States that met at Newark, N. J., in May, 1864.

Having been appointed, in connection with the Hon. Judge Allison, of Philadelphia, a Delegate from your venerable body to the Assembly that met at Newark, New Jersey, in 1864, I beg leave to report:

Nothing could exceed the kindness and courtesy with which we were received by our brethren of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church. Everything that could be done to manifest the best Christian feeling and the most sincere welcome was, at every proper time and on every suitable occasion, evinced. We conveyed to our brethren your Christian salutations, and your desire and prayer, and that of our whole Church, for their increase in numbers and spiritual strength.

We found ourselves amidst a body of men, mostly, in early manhood and in middle life, full of intelligence and zeal and energy, and yet dignified and made venerable by the presence of others, whose names are known in the churches, and whose whitened locks betokened long service and mature experience and wisdom.

We were not authorized to speak for you, definitely, on the interesting subject of a Reunion of the two branches of our Presbyterian family. What we respectively said, was simply an expression of our own individual opinions. While, therefore, advocating the kindest Christian feeling between the two bodies, and the broadest co-operative activity that real spiritual unity can prescribe, I yet felt constrained to enter my convictions, that the time for a closer organic union has not yet come. The grounds of this view could not, of course, be fully given, but must be obvious to every thoughtful mind. There was a manifest desire in the great majority of the Assembly, especially with all the younger members, that the two bodies should be one, and a noble paper, honorable to the piety of its framers, was drawn up and numerously signed, and the following resolutions, reported by a committee, were adopted by the Assembly:

"*Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly have witnessed, with unalloyed satisfaction, the happy influence of the correspondence, initiated by a former Assembly, between the two bodies in promoting fraternal and Christian affection, and thus preparing the way for a still closer union at some future day, (if such should be judged best for the promotion of the glory of God, and of the spiritual interests of the whole Church.)

"*Resolved*, 2. That, in view of the pleasing results, which have already been developed from the plan of correspondence now in successful operation, the Assembly do not deem it expedient, at present, to propose any additional measure toward the consummation of the object contemplated by the Presbyteries, whose action has been submitted to their consideration.

"*Resolved*, 3. That with a view still further to attain and strengthen that 'unity of the spirit,' which is so essential to organic unity, the Assembly express their concurrence with the suggestions and counsels of the Assembly of 1863, as contained in the third resolution adopted by that body (page 39 of their Minutes,) and recommend them to the prayerful consideration of the parties concerned."

The loyalty and devoted patriotism of the Assembly were decided and conspicuous, and their present views on the subject of Slavery will appear from a solemn declaration on page 298 of their Minutes, in which the following words occur: "The time has at length come, in the providence of God, when it is His will that every vestige of human slavery among us should be effaced, and that every Christian should address himself, with industry and earnestness, to his appropriate part in the performance of this great duty."

There can be little doubt, that the correspondence, so happily commenced between the two bodies will gradually remove prejudice, and strengthen fraternal bonds, and may ultimately lead to a closer union.

It only remains to add that the Rev. Milo J. Hickok, D. D., and the Hon. Martin Ryerson, were appointed Delegates to the Assembly to be held at Brooklyn, in May, 1865.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES P. WILSON.

Newark, N. J., May 17*th*, 1865.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	82	2	5	66	220	125	7,816	339	92	102	3,107	$300 75	$5,152	$4,784	$666	$2,967	$61	$19,883	$9,081	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	22	...	...	18	19	38	1,958	192	9	17	375	66 00	547	1,255	37	......	...	3,200	2,418	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	28	2	3	18	103	36	2,279	.....	49	19	......	75 50	1,959	1,235	168	854	...	4,537	3,276	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	12	...	1	11	45	36	1,618	.....	20	34	1,353	62 10	1,776	665	335	1,596	10	627	42	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	8	...	...	6	34	7	814	123	11	17	550	39 95	111	502	37	10	51	6,077	2,051	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	12	..	1	13	19	8	1,147	24	3	15	829	57 20	759	1,127	89	507	...	5,442	2,294	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	79	6	10	69	223	120	6,646	76	58	68	2,545	252 83	3,330	4,323	467	1,378	..	29,471	9,949	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	...	8	43	17	724	8	13	18	550	37 80	348	569	23	6	...	3,057	1,235	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	21	...	...	20	31	23	1,721	54	10	15	1,182	98 25	223	633	124	263	...	20,090	1,985	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	7	...	...	11	34	18	927	14	14	6	813	27 65	517	488	13	308	...	6,324	1,552	J. Niles Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	42	6	10	30	115	62	3,274	.....	21	29	......	89 13	2,242	2,633	307	801	...	......	5,177	
III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	90	26	23	71	283	258	8,380	96	131	90	4,176	400 15	4,199	5,417	1,231	1,664	57	69,312	9,320	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	22	...	3	21	81	66	2,469	.....	41	23	1,636	122 00	728	1,241	559	600	50	31,455	2,153	Edwin R. Davis.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	33	25	18	23	45	94	2,682	14	21	36	.....	127 70	1,823	2,314	312	299	7	18,000	4,966	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	...	16	48	35	1,705	79	22	17	1,268	84 45	659	719	85	141	...	9,136	1,674	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Tioga	1829	...	22	1	2	11	109	63	1,524	3	44	14	1,272	66 00	989	1,143	275	624	...	10,721	527	T. Dwight Walker.
IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	104	5	7	90	281	194	8,835	280	119	161	6,227	408 16	3,223	3,850	975	1,896	...	64,641	11,284	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	37	2	...	18	47	66	2,551	174	26	46	2,536	127 20	735	1,404	112	365	...	31,139	5,814	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	14	...	...	18	55	26	1,347	.....	21	23	1,120	42 11	331	342	148	33	...	5,450	925	William A. Niles.
3. Chemung	1836	...	19	...	1	18	25	49	1,387	19	6	23	.....	70 00	932	689	343	636	...	......	757	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	8	...	2	8	57	12	1,235	10	22	12	690	49 00	481	485	241	350	...	12,778	784	Warren Mayo.
5. Wellsborough.	1845	...	10	1	...	13	7	2	522	11	4	6	317	30 00	34	53	96	20	...	618	35	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	16	2	4	15	93	39	1,793	66	40	51	1,564	89 85	710	877	35	492	...	14,656	2,969	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	37	2	3	41	126	41	3,529	15	48	40	1,789	160 26	662	2,193	251	319	140	8,595	2,490	Willard M. Hoyt.
1. Otsego	1820	...	15	1	...	17	44	22	1,377	.....	16	16	715	68 50	214	1,243	53	77	120	8,298	1,403	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	10	...	...	13	9	8	1,328	.....	4	10	100	31 80	287	721	60	219	20	211	101	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	12	1	3	11	73	11	824	15	28	14	974	59 96	161	229	138	23	...	86	986	Theodore F. White.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE......	1821	6	130	6	10	102	480	347	13,162	536	195	192	11,836	615 51	7,668	9,592	1,067	2,026	132	102,925	23,641	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo..........................	1817	...	37	2	9	27	127	107	3,573	148	34	45	2,903	200 90	2,998	3,168	385	1,269	6	32,546	11,300	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario..........................	1817	...	19	...	...	12	95	38	1,645	143	34	17	1,020	74 30	671	758	155	215	...	....	1,648	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester......................	1819	...	27	3	...	17	104	86	3,240	73	47	56	3,032	106 61	2,104	3,288	274	288	...	34,602	5,367	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee.........................	1819	...	14	...	1	16	87	39	1,395	68	48	23	1,402	70 70	840	791	158	116	116	12,867	2,066	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara.........................	1823	...	17	1	...	16	13	48	2,209	62	5	25	2,175	110 30	504	981	60	78	...	13,340	1,752	William G. Hubbard.
6. Genesee Valley...........	1828	...	16	...	...	14	54	29	1,100	42	27	26	1,304	52 70	551	606	35	60	10	9,570	1,508	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J....	1788	9	285	36	60	162	1348	1340	29,372	1699	371	723	22,986	1657 70	28,146	35,996	7,854	6,315	1841	374,000	137,398	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson........................	1797	...	18	...	1	12	64	45	1,708	134	30	59	573	84 65	428	567	150	174	2	6,760	2,220	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River................	1819	...	23	1	2	17	34	24	1,855	.....	20	24	... ..	112 50	414	397	154	406	...	....	101	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island.	1791	...	9	...	..	6	2	3	683	7	1	11	320	34 60	87	309	5	46	...	6,490	1,273	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third........	1831	...	64	8	16	22	208	433	6,937	329	46	130	8,397	327 50	5,258	10,584	1,604	672	1382	110,400	28,884	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth......	1845	...	49	17	20	15	158	295	3,804	866	42	112	3,506	373 00	7,231	11,851	2,201	1,471	...	95,784	59,172	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	22	4	1	9	90	161	2,815	.....	22	93	.. ...	140 00	9,477	3,585	2,182	2,169	...	16,878	7,227	William S. Karr.
7. Newark.........................	1824	...	50	4	16	27	624	289	6,831	100	126	227	5,973	313 00	3,951	6,398	1,118	1,196	457	93,038	27,524	James Hoyt.
8. Rockaway....................	1839	...	20	1	2	20	73	23	2,222	15	43	24	1,420	111 45	506	969	293	80	...	13,128	2,739	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose......................	1832	...	30	1	2	34	95	67	2,517	248	41	43	2,797	161 00	791	1,336	147	101	...	31,522	8,258	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	107	10	17	85	592	564	14,226	969	160	487	15,540	756 90	10,483	14,394	2,991	17,188	1395	174,744	154,168	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington................	1833	...	11	2	1	15	74	22	1,628	.....	26	38	1,919	78 20	2,345	620	702	1,360	69	9,969	115	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third...	1832	...	35	1	2	23	203	228	4,006	418	55	151	5,207	193 00	4,519	5,771	1,460	13,769	495	83,303	132,586	J. Glentworth Butler, D.D.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth..	1815	...	36	4	10	29	214	226	6,080	533	65	207	5,824	307 00	1,470	5,942	688	1,085	724	42,871	13,472	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh...............	1839	...	13	2	3	9	32	23	1,068	12	6	35	1,370	106 00	1,892	1,235	141	878	80	20,904	7,509	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia...	1831	...	12	1	1	9	69	65	1,444	6	8	56	1,220	72 70	257	826	......	96	27	17,697	486	William McLain, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN..	1843	3	28	1	...	31	100	49	2,959	162	19	64	2,836	162 10	3,609	2,247	1,857	2,255	26	64,734	15,269	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	15	...	...	13	32	22	1,369	42	8	23	1,339	67 50	573	570	105	114	26	26,917	1,516	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville....................	1842	...	8	1	...	14	47	13	801	39	10	23	530	42 60	340	327	617	292	...	1,347	594	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh...................	1839	...	5	...	...	4	21	14	789	81	1	18	967	52 00	2,696	1,350	1,135	1,849	...	36,470	13,159	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	119	4	11	110	553	419	8,906	177	202	200	6,432	447 27	3,646	3,802	1,322	1,547	166	64,400	8,606	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit.........................	1826	...	18	...	3	15	72	40	1,364	.....	21	26	......	66 05	1,113	979	532	692	61	120	1,440	Eurotas P. Hastings, Esq.
2. Monroe	1833	...	15	...	2	17	90	61	1,439	.....	28	29	1,076	69 85	466	590	175	90	...	11,669	1,555	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall.....	1838	...	17	...	1	18	122	65	1,414	.....	47	19	410	68 00	459	288	63	47	...	5,236	....	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw..	1838	...	15	2	3	8	70	40	1,078	1	24	34	1,050	53 60	301	304	142	123	...	18,964	429	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo.............. ..	1858	...	18	1	1	15	62	73	1,373	109	20	40	1,695	83 00	635	840	183	402	102	12,325	3,417	Job Pierson.
6. Coldwater....................	1856	...	9	1	1	12	65	71	942	35	30	27	918	45 92	348	368	101	76	...	5,565	922	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	14	...	...	13	18	41	791	27	6	20	605	40 80	174	286	70	84	...	5,768	149	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley....	1857	...	10	...	...	7	54	28	429	5	26	5	678	20 05	106	47	56	33	...	3,293	614	George Ransom.
9. Lake Superior............	1857	...	3	...	...	5	.....	...	76	.....	.....	.....	......	....	44	100	......	......	...	1,460	80	Cicero B. Stevens.
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE.	1825	6	98	4	13	77	251	249	5,911	95	109	132	4,992	332 67	3,313	5,842	1,463	1,498	194	56,702	16,147	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River...............	1814	...	7	...	...	5	12	9	443	.....	4	4	......	21 60	104	64	2	......	6	400	122	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	16	...	2	16	82	37	1,274	46	43	35	1,598	67 00	370	501	218	33	61	20,800	1,441	Alfred Newton, D. D.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants		General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
3. Trumbull	1827	...	14	...	1	16	42	59	1,169	.....	10	24	975	$58 65	$342	$582	$91	......	...	....	6,102	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland & Portage	1830	...	42	4	8	18	55	83	1,716	46	18	37	1,360	112 42	2,135	3,309	710	$1,104	$72	$25,453	6,393	James Shaw.
5. Elyria	1842	...	13	...	...	12	34	10	612	.....	20	9	305	30 00	147	689	41	38	...	2,325	481	Ansel R. Clark.
6. Maumee	1842	...	6	...	2	10	26	51	697	3	14	23	754	43 00	215	697	401	323	55	7,724	1,608	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO	1814	4	52	3	5	64	142	111	4,126	95	52	134	3,343	220 70	2,293	3,020	644	554	112	33,602	7,045	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	13	2	5	17	15	15	768	.....	7	25	....	39 15	334	269	80	156	...	....	660	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	...	...	23	54	40	1,474	20	18	43	1,370	74 50	736	1,177	265	154	...	6,969	1,552	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	16	1	...	16	51	35	1,212	54	23	26	1,061	63 05	501	730	194	171	3	18,192	3,654	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	6	...	...	8	22	21	672	21	4	40	912	44 00	722	844	105	73	109	8,441	1,179	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	1829	4	58	5	7	50	356	150	3,983	91	174	95	4,059	227 80	6,219	4,004	1,576	1,519	10	19,927	5,572	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	28	5	3	16	161	81	1,588	42	101	35	2,036	96 00	4,617	2,313	1,361	982	10	12,052	1,619	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	11	...	1	16	21	17	796	.....	7	18	515	46 10	111	327	38	......	...	195	152	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	..	9	...	...	10	73	31	968	49	31	24	860	45 70	890	461	78	407	...	4,530	2.726	William M. Cheever.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	10	...	3	8	98	21	631	.....	35	18	618	40 00	598	900	96	130	...	3,150	1,075	John Hussey.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA	1826	4	45	4	3	62	357	166	3,928	91	121	127	3,821	198 10	2,037	3,759	1,696	517	4	24,624	22,894	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	12	...	...	14	126	37	1,169	80	58	47	1,700	51 00	638	1,250	216	185	...	12,424	10,707	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	10	3	3	11	70	48	906	.....	18	22	786	44 35	704	814	227	129	...	5,320	1,420	Wm. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	1	...	19	86	56	1,121	3	25	33	820	68 00	406	1,296	1,092	183	4	6,425	10,103	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	10	...	...	15	75	25	732	8	20	25	515	34 75	289	399	161	50	...	455	664	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH	1851	4	35	1	5	55	204	127	2,859	1	68	95	2,650	134 50	1,074	1,087	10,597	518	15	15,031	6,150	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	11	1	2	12	31	9	574	.....	9	11	435	29 00	162	229	48	92	...	....	....	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	10	...	...	14	59	33	777	.....	21	21	685	28 50	486	338	363	99	...	1,470	859	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	2	20	73	54	1,050	.....	24	49	970	51 00	315	471	10,153	300	15	7,795	5,261	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	6	...	1	9	41	31	458	1	14	14	560	26 00	111	49	33	27	...	5,766	30	William R. Palmer.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS	1831	4	77	...	1	85	222	254	4,667	156	79	159	3,718	243 30	3,718	1,937	607	1,259	55	24,019	26,906	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	15	...	...	19	56	66	1,429	.....	19	39	993	76 50	1,547	1,227	229	243	...	....	21,346	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	19	...	1	21	68	42	1,177	.....	24	27	95	57 50	477	233	219	494	17	450	2,400	George I. King.
3. Wabash	1833	...	13	...	...	12	52	47	533	.....	16	28	910	25 85	336	177	21	......	25	8,885	807	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	30	...	...	33	46	99	1,528	156	20	65	1,720	83 45	1,358	300	138	522	13	14,684	2,353	Augustus T. Norton.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.....	1843	5	88	3	3	71	424	367	5,460	141	152	175	6,195	261 78	3,033	4,010	1,199	1,659	...	28,437	24,989	Zeph. M. Humphrey, D.D.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	14	...	...	9	8	13	442	36	4	14	418	20 75	109	114	26	45	...	2,600	495	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox...	1836	...	8	1	...	6	75	30	584	7	31	10	475	28 00	240	305	381	107	...	3,091	817	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena and Belvidere.	1842	...	26	...	2	22	147	90	1,554	101	48	47	1,749	67 85	898	707	81	45	...	22,746	3,577	Isaac E. Carey.
4. Chicago	1847	...	30	2	...	21	141	172	2,259	.....	46	92	3,523	112 00	1,676	2,898	694	944	...	....	20,100	Asahel L. Brooks.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	10	...	1	13	53	62	621	.....	20	12	......	33 18	110	16	14	518	...	....	....	James R. Dunn.
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN...	1857	3	36	...	1	29	115	74	1,509	38	38	71	1,861	69 33	385	545	13	52	...	11,237	1,141	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee.................	1851	...	15	...	...	9	23	36	682	.....	3	37	553	27 80	176	411	13	13	...	214	426	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River....................	1851	...	9	...	...	8	48	16	357	16	17	16	578	18 18	125	49	......	......	..	5,588	273	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1857	...	12	...	1	12	44	22	470	22	18	18	730	23 35	84	85	......	39	...	5,435	442	Benjamin G. Riley.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA	1853	6	53	...	1	57	139	155	2,208	83	33	70	2,590	105 30	681	277	142	374	28	22,116	2,726	Samuel Storrs Howe.
1. Des Moines.................	1845	...	7	...	...	10	24	28	270	.....	6	10	......	14 15	29	30	110	313	...	....	....	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk	1852	...	7	...	...	6	44	5	308	33	7	21	715	13 85	147	46	......	19	...	1,278	1,113	Garmaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City	1852	...	18	...	...	14	23	65	550	32	9	23	1,035	40 00	242	99	10	27	...	7,653	641	Hannibal L. Stanley.
4. Dubuque......	1855	...	5	...	...	5	16	22	227	10	6	13	550	10 30	179	84	2	15	...	3,911	580	Henry B. Holmes.
5. Chariton *	1857	...	5	...	...	7	.....	...	315	.....	.....	.....	......	... .	....	....	......	......	...	....	....	Asa Martin.
6. Cedar Valley..............	1860	...	11	...	1	15	32	35	538	8	5	3	290	27 00	84	18	20	......	28	9,244	389	Stephen Phelps.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA...	1858	3	27	1	2	22	173	87	1,137	9	93	77	1,333	51 30	362	500	169	195	20	5,232	2,236	Charles S. Le Duc.
1. Dakota	1846	...	12	1	...	8	123	50	603	2	71	57	465	26 30	59	72	......	6	20	8	540	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	9	...	...	9	29	23	327	.....	6	13	568	15 00	244	330	127	179	...	2,700	1,372	John Mattocks.
3. Winona......................	1857	...	6	...	2	5	21	14	207	7	16	7	300	10 00	59	98	42	10	...	2,524	324	
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI. ..	1832	4	24	2	..	27	33	64	1,037	.....	8	53	745	52 90	695	476	25	500	..	38,035	3,751	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis.....................	1831	...	8	...	...	3	12	30	465	.....	4	31	380	25 00	469	382	......	489	...	38,000	....	Edmund Wright.
2. Lexington..	1842	...	5	...	...	5	3	12	139	.....	.....	13	125	6 65	79	50	25	11	...	28	3,700	Timothy Morgan.
3. Northern Missouri......	1845	...	5	...	...	7	13	11	240	.....	4	8	240	11 75	120	44	......	......	...	7	51	James A. Darrah.
4. Kansas...........	1859	...	6	2	...	12	5	8	193	.....	.....	1	.. ...	9 50	27	....	......	......	...	....	....	William H. Smith.
XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.	1817	3	13	...	...	31	.....	.....	2,260													
1. Union	1797	...	5	...	...	20	.....	.....	1,520	.....	.....	.....	......	....	....	....	......	......	...	....	....	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston....................	1838	...	4	...	...	10	.....	.....	415	.....	.....	.....	......	....	....	....	......	......	...	....	....	William B. Brown.
3. Holston......................	1865	...	4	...	...	4	.....	....	325													
XXIII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA.	1857	4	27	1	...	19	60	64	729	.....	14	45	......	....	579	211	140	75	...	13,000	378	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco...........	1849	...	7	...	...	3	25	31	229	.....	.....	.....	......	....	100	....	......	......	...	....	....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	5	...	...	4	17	16	175	.....	5	24	......	....	453	112	140	75	...	13,000	....	Charles C. Wallace.
3. San José.....................	1857	...	11	1	...	9	18	17	272	.....	9	21	.....	....	26	99	......	......	...	....	378	George Pierson, M. D.
4. Washoe *	1863	...	4	...	...	3	...	.....	53	.....	.....	.....	......	....	....	....	......	.....	...	....	....	Albert F. White.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.							
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	82	2	5	66	220	125	7,816	339	92	102	3,107	$300 75	$5,152	$4,784	$666	$2,967	$61	$19,883	$9,081
2. Utica	1829	4	79	6	10	69	223	120	6,646	76	58	68	2,545	252 83	3,330	4,323	467	1,378	.....	29,471	9,949
3. Onondaga	1855	4	90	26	23	71	283	258	8,380	96	131	90	4,176	400 15	4,199	5,417	1,231	1,664	57	69,312	9,320
4. Geneva	1812	6	104	5	7	90	284	194	8,835	280	119	161	6,227	408 16	3,223	3,850	975	1,896	.....	64,641	11,284
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	37	2	3	41	126	41	3,529	15	48	40	1,789	160 26	662	2,193	251	319	140	8,595	2,490
6. Genesee	1821	6	130	6	10	102	480	347	13,162	536	195	192	11,836	615 51	7,668	9,592	1,067	2,026	132	102,925	23,641
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	285	36	60	162	1318	1340	29,372	1699	371	723	22,986	1657 70	28,146	35,996	7,854	6,315	1841	374,000	137,398
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	107	10	17	85	592	564	14,226	969	160	487	15,540	756 90	10,483	14,394	2,991	17,188	1395	174,744	154,168
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	28	1	...	31	100	49	2,959	162	19	64	2,836	162 10	3,609	2,247	1,857	2,255	26	64,734	15,269
10. Michigan	1834	9	119	4	11	110	553	419	8,906	177	202	200	6,432	447 27	3,646	3,802	1,322	1,547	166	64,400	8,606
11. Western Reserve	1825	6	98	4	13	77	251	249	5,911	95	109	132	4,992	332 67	3,313	5,842	1,463	1,498	194	56,702	16,147
12. Ohio	1814	4	52	3	5	64	142	111	4,126	95	52	134	3,343	220 70	2,293	3,020	644	554	112	33,602	7,045
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	58	5	7	50	356	150	3,983	91	174	95	4,059	227 80	6,219	4,004	1,576	1,519	10	19,927	5,572
14. Indiana	1826	4	45	4	3	62	357	166	3,928	91	121	127	3,821	198 10	2,037	3,759	1,696	547	4	24,624	22,894
15. Wabash	1851	4	35	1	5	55	204	127	2,859	1	68	95	2,650	134 50	1,074	1,087	10,597	518	15	15,031	6,150
16. Illinois	1831	4	77	...	1	85	222	254	4,667	156	79	159	3,718	243 30	3,718	1,937	607	1,259	55	24,019	26,906
17. Peoria	1843	5	88	3	3	71	424	367	5,460	141	152	175	6,195	261 78	3,033	4,040	1,199	1,659	.....	28,437	24,989
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	36	...	1	29	115	74	1,509	38	38	71	1,861	69 33	385	545	13	52	.....	11,237	1,141
19. Iowa	1853	6	53	...	1	57	139	155	2,208	83	33	70	2,590	105 30	681	277	142	374	28	22,116	2,726
20. Minnesota	1858	3	27	1	2	22	173	87	1,137	9	93	77	1,333	51 30	362	500	169	195	20	5,232	2,236
21. Missouri	1832	4	24	2	...	27	33	64	1,037	...	8	53	745	52 90	695	476	25	500	.....	38,035	3,751
22. Tennessee	1817	3	13	...	...	34	...	...	2,260												
23. Alta California	1857	4	27	1	...	19	60	61	729	...	14	45	......	....	579	211	140	75	.....	13,000	378
		108	1694	122	187	1479	6685	5325	143,645	5152	2336	3360	112,781	$7059 31	$94,507	$112,296	$36,952	$46,305	$4256	$1,264,667	$501,141

MINUTES, 1866.

Saint Louis, Mo., May 17th, 1866.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church of Saint Louis, Missouri, on Thursday, May 17th, 1866, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Psalms 65 : 2 : "O thou that hearest prayer."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the sessions of the Assembly be opened at 8½ o'clock A. M., and 3 o'clock P. M.; that they close at 12 M., and 5½ o'clock P. M.; that the evening services commence at 7¾ o'clock; and that the daily morning prayer-meeting commence at 9 o'clock, and continue until 10 o'clock A. M. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [234]

Thursday, May 17th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Asa E. Everest.	
2. *Troy*,	N. S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Silas K. Stowe.
	Jonathan H. Noble,	
3. *Albany*,	Stephen Bush,	Edward A. Durant.
4. *Columbia*,	Charles T. Berry.	
5. *Catskill*,	William Hart.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Samuel W. Pratt,	William A. Eldridge.
2. *Watertown*,	J. Jermain Porter,	Samuel Bond.
3. *Oswego*.		
4. *Utica*,	William E. Knox, D. D.,	Gilbert M. Gifford,
	James B. Fisher,	William S. Taylor (3).

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	John F. Kendall,	Timothy R. Porter.
2. *Cayuga*,	Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D.,	Albert W. Allen,
	Henry Fowler,	Hon. Wm. I. Cornwell.
3. *Cortland*,	Giles M. Smith,	Joseph R. Dixon.
4. *Tioga*,	Samuel F. Bacon,	Ira W. Goodell (3).

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	Ezra Jones,	
	John C. Moses.	
2. *Steuben*,	William A. Niles.	
3. *Chemung*,	Isaac Clark (2),	James M. Reeder.
4. *Ithaca*,	George Spaulding (2),	Nelson Noble.
5. *Wellsboro.*		
6. *Lyons*,	William L. Page,	Columbus Croul.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	George O. Phelps,	Robert Russell.
2. *Chenango*,	John L. Jones,	William Newton.
3. *Delaware*,	Leonard E. Richards,	Elijah Churchill.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Walter Clark, D. D.,	Stephen M. Clement,
	Richard M. Sandford,	Joseph H. Plumb.
2. *Ontario*,	Levi G. Marsh.	
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Simon Harwood.
	Charles P. Bush,	
4. *Genesee*,	Allen Traver (2),	Phineas Stanton (2).
5. *Niagara*,	Lucius I. Root,	Myron P. Hopkins (2).
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Isaac G. Ogden,	Alfred Lockhart. [235]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Robert R. Kellogg,	William S. Webb.
2. *North River*,	O. H. Perry Deyo,	Edward Wells.
3. *Long Island*,	Thomas Harries,	Stuart T. Terry.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Alfred E. Campbell, D. D.,	William A. Booth,
	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	William H. Christie,
	Samuel D. Burchard, D. D.,	Alexander Milne.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	Albert N. Brown.
	George W. Wood, D. D.,	
6. *Brooklyn*,	William S. Karr (3),	Hon. Edw. A. Lambert.
7. *Newark*,	Joel Parker, D. D. (3),	James Reeve Sayre,
	Nelson Millard,	John C. Hines,
	Charles E. Knox,	Alexander H. Holden.
8. *Rockaway*,	Lewis Thompson,	Hon. John Hill.
9. *Montrose*,	Oliver Crane,	Samuel N. Thatcher.
	Horatio Pattengill,	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	George F. Wiswell,	Samuel Barr.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	Beriah B. Hotchkin,	Hon. Wilmer Worthington,
	William E. Moore,	Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.,	J. Marshall Paul, M. D.
	James Boggs,	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Thomas H. Robinson (3),	Lewis G. Huling.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	John N. Coombs,	Octavius Knight.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	Thomas T. Bradford,	Jonathan A. Marsh, M. D.
2. *Meadville*,	Whiting C. Birchard,	David Compton.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Peter S. Davies,	Hon. Henry W. Williams.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	William Hogarth, D. D.,	Alanson Sheley.
2. *Monroe*,	Charles N. Mattoon, D. D.,	Brackley Shaw.
3. *Marshall*,	J. Livingston Willard,	Philo Merrill.
4. *Washtenaw*,	George P. Tindall,	William M. Gregory.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Milton Bradley,	Luther H. Trask.
6. *Coldwater*,	Joseph A. Ranney,	Lorenzo Russell.
7. *Saginaw*,	Donald B. Campbell,	Levi Walker (3).
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	George Ransom,	Jonathan Hoyt.
9. *Lake Superior*.	Frederic H. Adams,	Joseph W. Edwards.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*.		
2. *Huron*,	Ebenezer Bushnell,	Thomas Stilwell, M. D.
3. *Trumbull*,	Levi B. Wilson,	Martin Allen.
4. *Cleveland and Portage*.	William C. Turner,	Truman P. Handy.
	John Monteith, Jr.,	Hon. John A. Foot.
5. *Elyria*,	James E. Vance,	Isaac S. Metcalf.
6. *Maumee*,	George A. Adams (4),	Mavor Brigham. [236]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Charles C. Hart,	Luther Edgerton.
2. *Pataskala*,	Ebenezer Buckingham (2).	
3. *Franklin*,	Henry Calhoun,	Asa D. Lord, M. D.
4. *Scioto*,	James R. Gibson,	David C. Anderson.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Joseph Chester,	Franklin V. Chamberlain,
	John L. French,	Andrew Flesher.
2. *Dayton*,	Joseph B. Little,	Solon Massey.
3. *Hamilton*,	Jeremiah P. E. Kumler (3),	Benjamin A. Hunt.
4. *Ripley*,	Henry V. Warren,	Theodore W. Collins.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Thomas A. Steele,	Silas Moore.
2. *Madison*,	Amzi W. Freeman (3),	Edwin G. Whitney (3).
3. *Indianapolis*,	Philip S. Cleland,	Thomas Hamilton.
4. *Green Castle*,	Thomas S. Milligan,	John Ott.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Edward C. Johnston,	Edmund G. Wilson.
2. *St. Joseph*,	George C. Noyes.	
3. *Logansport*,	Martin M. Post, D. D.,	Lewis Martin (2).
4. *Fort Wayne*,	George O. Little,	George W. Rhodes (2).

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	William L. Tarbet,	Joshua Moore.
2. *Schuyler*,	Alexander Duncan,	James R. Curry.
3. *Wabash*,	Samuel Ward,	David Ewing.
4. *Alton*,	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D.,	William Storer.
	John Gibson,	Samuel Wade.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Levi P. Crawford,	James R. McLain.
2. *Knox*,	William S. Curtis, D. D.,	Ira I. Fenn.
3. *Galena and Belvidere*,	Aratus Kent,	Horatio Newhall, M. D.,
	John W. Cunningham,	Manley Rogers.
4. *Chicago*,	Zeph. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	Stillman R. Bingham,
	J. Lyman Morton,	Edwin S. Wells.
5. *Bloomington*,	John W. Bailey,	Oramel Rugg.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Peter S. Van Nest,	Samuel C. West.
2. *Fox River*,	James W. Stark.	
3. *Columbus*,	Edmund B. Miner (3),	Ephraim G. Stitt.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Alexander M. Heizer.	
2. *Keokuk*,	Gamaliel C. Beaman,	Solomon Beckley.
3. *Iowa City*,	George D. A. Hebard,	Beaumont S. Holmes.
4. *Dubuque*,	Albert True (3),	Proctor C. Samson.
5. *Chariton*.		
6. *Cedar Rapids*,	Hannibal L. Stanley.	[237]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	John P. Williamson (2).	
2. *Minnesota*,	Albert G. Ruliffson (3),	Daniel W. Ingersoll (3).
3. *Winona*,	David L. Kiehle (3),	Edwin J. Thompson (3).

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	J. Addison Whitaker,	Russell Scarrit.
2. *Lexington*,	Benjamin B. Parsons, D. D.,	John H. Carson.
3. *Northern Missouri*,	Thomas H. Tatlow,	Homer H. Winchell.
4. *Kansas*,	William H. Smith (4),	Cyrus E. Gaylord (4).

XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	James A. Griffes.	
2. *Kingston*,	Thomas Brown,	
3. *Holston*,	Calvin Waterbury,	John Lynn (3).

XXII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco*.
2. *Sierra Nevada*.
3. *San José*.
4. *Washoe*.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly that met at Pittsburgh, in* 1865,	Rev. Phineas D. Gurley, D. D. Hon. Lincoln Clark.	
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*		
3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,*	Rev. Robert D. Harper, D. D.	
4. *General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America.*		
5. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America,*	Rev. David Herron.	
6. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*		
7. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*		
8. *General Convention of the Congregational Churches of Maine.*		
9. *General Association of New Hampshire,*	Rev. John W. Chickering, Jr.	
10. *General Convention of Vermont,*	Rev. Benjamin F. Ray.	
11. *General Association of Massachusetts.*		[238]
12. *General Association of Connecticut.*		
13. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*		
14. *Union of Evangelical Churches of France.*		

The Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cayuga, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. John W. Bailey, of the Presbytery of Bloomington, and the Rev. Stephen Bush, of the Presbytery of Albany, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, after the announcement of the Standing Committees, to receive the Synodical Records and the papers from the respective Presbyteries, as well as all other papers of an official character intended for the Assembly.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to J. Marshall Paul, M. D., Hon. William I. Cornwell, and Mr. Wilmer Worthington, as an *Auditing Committee.*

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

Ordered, As a standing rule of the Assembly, that a Standing Committee be appointed by the Moderator, to whom shall be referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools, provided for by the Assembly of 1864, and all papers appertaining to the subject.

It was further *Ordered*, That the nomination of fifteen members of such Permanent Committee be referred to the Standing Committee.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18*th*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The appointed hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., J. Jermain Porter, Henry Calhoun, Thomas S. Milligan, Jonathan H. Noble, [239] Levi P. Crawford. *Elders*—Hon. William I. Cornwell, Alexander Milne, Hon. Wilmer Worthington, Alanson Sheley, Mayor Brigham.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—James B. Shaw, D. D., Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., Benjamin B. Parsons, D. D., Philip S. Cleland, Thomas T. Bradford, John W. Cunningham. *Elders*—Andrew Flesher, Ira I. Fenn, Samuel C. West, Homer H. Winchell, Beaumont S. Holmes.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry B. Smith, D. D., William Hogarth, D. D., Ebenezer Bushnell. Jeremiah P. E. Kumler, Peter S. Van Nest, Horatio Pattengill. George P. Tindall. *Elders*—Edward Wells, Joseph H. Plumb, Albert N. Brown, J. Marshall Paul, M. D., Theodore W. Collins.

4. *Home Missions. Ministers*—William E. Knox, D. D., Martin M. Post, D. D., James W. Stark, Alexander M. Heizer, J. Addison Whitaker. Frederick H. Adams, *Elders*—Hon. John Hill, Luther H. Trask, Russell Scarrit, Horatio Newhall, M. D., Edward E. Wilson.

5. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Walter Clarke, D. D., George W. Wood, D. D., Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Milton Bradley, John Monteith, Jr. *Elders*—Octavius Knight, Joseph W. Edwards, David C. Anderson, Manley Rogers, Ephraim G. Stitt.

6. *Education. Ministers*—William S. Curtis, D. D.. Beriah B. Hotchkin, Calvin Waterbury, John F. Kendall, George D. A. Hebard, Alexander Duncan. *Elders*—William A. Booth, Joseph R. Dixon, Asa D. Lord, M. D., Brackley Shaw, James H. Sayre.

7. *Publication. Ministers*—Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., George C. Noyes, Samuel W. Pratt, Levi B Wilson, James R. Gibson, Samuel Ward. *Elders*—Edward A. Durant, Timothy R. Porter, Robert Russell, Lewis G. Huling, Luther Edgerton.

8. *Church Erection. Ministers*—Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., William A. Niles, William E. Moore, Joseph Chester, Thomas H. Tat[240]low, Joseph A. Ranney. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, Truman P. Handy, Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., William S. Webb, William M. Gregory.

9. *Sabbath-schools. Ministers*—Henry Fowler, Charles E. Knox, William Hart, Ebenezer Buckingham, Thomas H. Robinson. *Elders*—Hon. Edward A. Lambert, William H. Christie, Albert W. Allen, Oramel Rugg.

10. *Ministerial Relief. Ministers*—Charles P. Bush, Nelson Millard, Aratus Kent, Whitney C. Birchard, Samuel F. Bacon. *Elders*—William Newton, Jonathan A. Marsh, M. D., Columbus Croul, Samuel N. Thatcher.

11. *Narrative of Religion. Ministers*—Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., John N. Coombs, Peter S. Davies, William C. Turner, Albert True. *Elders*—Thomas Hamilton, John H. Carson, Philo Merrill.

12. *Mileage of Commissioners. Elders*—Truman P. Handy, Silas K. Stowe, Stephen M. Clement.

13. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—George F. Wiswell, Charles N. Mattoon, D. D., J. Livingston Willard, John L. French. *Elders*—John C. Hines, Thomas Stillwell, M. D., Samuel Bond.

14. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Robert R. Kellogg, Lucius I. Root, William S. Page, James A. Griffes. *Elders*—William A. Eldridge, Elijah Churchill, David Compton.

Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany.* *Ministers*—Isaac G. Ogden, James Boggs, Henry V. Warren. *Elders*—Elijah Churchill, Simon Harwood.

2. *Synod of Utica.* *Ministers*—Oliver Crane, George O. Little, Edmund B. Miner. *Elders*—Edwin S. Wells, Samuel Wade.

3. *Synod of Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Charles T. Berry, Ebenezer Bushnell, Ezra Jones. *Elders*—William Newton, Nelson Noble. [241]

4. *Synod of Geneva.* *Ministers*—John L. Jones, Asa E. Everest, Allen Traver. *Elders*—Stuart T. Terry, Samuel Barr.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—John C. Moses, Thomas Harries, Thomas A. Steele. *Elders*—Gilbert M. Gifford, Alfred Lockhart.

6. *Synod of Genesee.* *Ministers*—Ebenezer Buckingham, Joseph L. Morton, William L. Tarbet. *Elders*—James R. Curry, Benjamin A. Hunt.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—George Spaulding, William L. Page, Giles M. Smith. *Elders*—Luther Edgerton, Isaac S. Metcalf.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—O. H. Perry Deyo, Richard M. Sandford, Leonard E. Richards. *Elders*—James M. Reeder, Robert Russell.

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Levi G. Marsh, Lewis Thompson, George Ransom. *Elders*— Martin Allen, Solon Massey.

10. *Synod of Michigan.* *Ministers*—James R. Gibson, George O. Phelps, James E. Vance. *Elders*—Silas Moore, William Storer.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Donald B. Campbell, John Gibson, Thomas Brown. *Elders*—Proctor C. Samson, Solomon Beckley.

12. *Synod of Ohio.* *Ministers*—Edward C. Johnston, Joseph B. Little, Horatio Pattengill. *Elders*—Alexander H. Holden, Joshua Moore.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Beriah B. Hotchkin, Alexander Duncan, Henry Calhoun. *Elders*—Levi Walker, Jonathan Hoyt.

14. *Synod of Indiana.* *Ministers*—Thomas T. Bradford, Nelson Willard, George P. Tindall. *Elders*—David Ewing, Samuel C. West.

15. *Synod of Wabash.* *Ministers*—J. Livingston Willard, Peter S. Davies, John L. French. *Elders*—Ira I. Fenn, Samuel N. Thatcher.

16. *Synod of Illinois.* *Ministers*—William E. Moore, Charles C. Hart, John W. Cunningham. *Elders*—Thomas Hamilton, John Ott.

17. *Synod of Peoria.* *Ministers*—Charles N. Mattoon, D. D., Jeremiah P. E. Kumler, George C. Noyes. *Elders*—Hon. John Hill, Joseph R. Dixon.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Lucius I. Root, John N. Coombs, William C. Turner. *Elders*—Lorenzo Russell, Jonathan A. Marsh, M. D. [242]

19. *Synod of Iowa.* *Ministers*— Jonathan H. Noble, Samuel W. Pratt, Charles E. Knox. *Elders*—Philo Merrill, Theodore W. Collins.

20. *Synod of Minnesota.* *Ministers*—James B. Fisher, Whiting C. Birchard, Alexander M. Heizer. *Elders*—Beaumont S. Holmes, Joshua Moore.

21. *Synod of Missouri.* *Ministers*—William A. Niles, Samuel F. Bacon, James A. Griffes. *Elders*—Luther H. Trask, Octavius Knight.

22. *Synod of Tennessee.* *Ministers*—William Hogarth, D. D., Levi B. Wilson, Gamaliel C. Beaman. *Elders*—William A. Booth, Hon. Wilmer Worthington.

23. *Synod of Alta California.*

The Records of the Synods, the Narratives, Statistical Reports, Overtures, and other papers of the Presbyteries, were received and appropriately referred.

The annual reports of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, were received and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18*th*, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The annual reports of the Permanent Committee on Education, the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and of the Trustees and the Treasurer of the Presbyterian House, were read, accepted, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.
Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 19*th*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The appointed hour was occupied with devotional exercises. [243]

The annual report of the Executive Committee charged with the care and disbursement of the Ministerial Relief Fund was read, accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief.

The Rev. William E. Knox, D. D., the Rev. William S. Curtis, D. D., and the Hon. John A. Foot, were appointed to confer with a Committee appointed by the General Assembly now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city, with reference to joint religious services to be held by the two General Assemblies.

The report of the Special Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 14 of the last Assembly, on final process in cases of contumacy, was read, accepted, and placed on the docket.

The Special Committee appointed with reference to the formation of a National Protestant League presented a verbal report, and asked to be discharged.

The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., the Rev. William Hogarth, D. D., the Rev. Henry Fowler, Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., Mr. Franklin V. Chamberlain, and Hon. John A. Foot were appointed a *Committee on the State of the Country.*

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock A. M.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21*st*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Robert D. Harper, D. D., the Delegate of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, respectfully represent to the General Assembly, that that report invites attention especially to the following points, to wit:

To our altogether satisfactory relations with the A. B. C. F. M.; the alarming decrease in the number of our missionaries in [244] the service of the Board; the continued neglect on the part of many of our churches and church members to make annual contributions to the cause of Missions; the importance of even a larger co-operation on the part of our Western churches; the need of a more efficient use of our ecclesiastical apparatus, and the fitness of this present period of our national history for a broader, mightier, and more successful assault upon that empire of darkness for whose conquest and illumination the Church aspires and exists.

That the utmost harmony should exist between our Permanent Committee and the American Board is only what the Assembly has had every just reason to expect; inasmuch as it is well understood that we can ask nothing of that body which they are not glad to concede, nor they desire anything of us which we are not willing beforehand to grant. One in aim and akin in temper, their success is ours, and ours theirs; for we and they are equally the Lord's. Nor are the kingdom, power, and glory ours or theirs, but his.

That the number of our missionaries should have been reduced one-sixth in three years, so that, whereas in 1863 we had fifty-six in the field, we have now only forty-seven, is a fact which the world will contemplate with surprise, the Assembly with sorrow, and to which we can make no other honorable answer than in the voice of our sons and daughters, saying in scores: "Here are we, send us."

It is matter of much congratulation that, under the many burdens and exactions of the times, our congregations gave to the cause of missions last year not less, but more, than in any previous year. Nevertheless the Assembly ought not to pass lightly over the humiliating revelations of the Committee's report, touching the continued neglect of a portion of our churches and church members to contribute their just quota to the cause of Christian Missions. Is our Church worthy its ancestry or its name? Can it lawfully call the Holy Spirit its tenant, the Redeemer its head, the age its sphere, the land its heritage, the future its hope, while of its fifteen hundred congregations seven hundred do nothing at all to send the Gospel to the heathen? No doubt there is need of greater fidelity on the part of those who superintend the annual benefactions of the Church, on the part, that is, of pastors, and elders, and committees, whether of Synods, sessions, or Presbyteries; but, when indifference becomes a habit, and in its inveteracy will yield neither to admonition nor entreaty, nor the calls of Providence, nor the spirit of the age, nor the Spirit of God, it devolves upon the General Assembly, in its care of the Church, to importune the Father of Lights, in his infinite condescension, to breathe into the whole body that spirit of grace, which is the spirit of Jesus, as it is also the spirit of missions. Your Committee recommend that some morning be set apart by the Assembly to prayer, especially for this object, that our ascended Redeemer may hear our united cry, and inspire, in [245] all our congregations, with the sessions, supplies, and pastors, that sentiment of expansive zeal which we need to make us to the full extent of our ability a Missionary Church.

The churches in our Western Synods have a vast home field, which they cannot dutifully or safely neglect. And all our churches, whether in the newer or the older States, have in charge the magnificent enterprise of establishing upon this great continent the seat of power, the home of liberty, the goal of the ages past, the starting-point of the ages to come—that glorious empire of Christ, for which the continent was created, for which the Republic stands. We must not try to abate, but rather to increase, the instinctive ardor which fires the hearts of our people in the East and the West in behalf of Home Missions. This magnificent middle belt, the highway of the King, which divides our continent, stretching from the Eastern to the Western sea, is our land of promise. And at whatever cost of money, toil, and time, we must take it, and transmit it with its institutions, sanctified and made permanent, to the coming generations, as the legacy of the Presbyterian Church of America, to the latter days of time. But, to do this home-work well, we must do our work in other lands well also; for we are of least use to ourselves when we are most selfish, and shall do most and most successfully for Christ's cause at home, when we do most and most willingly for his kingdom abroad. May God, by whose favor alone we can be made strong in this or other lands, keep our churches from the fatal mistake of doing little for missions among the heathen, under the impression that thereby they can do more for Christianity at their own doors.

The Committee learn with great satisfaction that two of our presbyters are employed in missionary labor, and two others are under appointment, in the service of the American and Foreign Christian Union. The Rev. Ramon B. S. Montsalvatge, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, and the Rev. Andrew J. McKim, of the Presbytery of Athens, are successfully at work, in not the least inviting of the many fields now opening to that efficient and worthy society, that is to say, in Brazil, South America. The Assembly will follow, with its most earnest supplications, every messenger of our church who shall go forth, at the call of the Union, to bear the Gospel, whether to Mexico, to the Southern continent, or to the lands that invite from across the sea.

The Committee recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following order, to wit:

That it be earnestly enjoined upon all the Synods, Presbyteries, sessions and congregations connected with this Assembly, that by the appointment of synodical and presbyterial committees; the faithful presentation of the cause to the people for their annual contributions; the diffusion of intelligence through the *Presbyterian Monthly*, *Missionary Herald*, *Christian World*, and the religious newspapers; regular observance of the monthly concert; reports to the Permanent Committee, and every other [246] appropriate method of instruction and appeal, they endeavor from this time to make our entire Church what it ought to be, and can be—the joy of the Redeemer, the glory of the age, the light of the world.

The Committee recommend, that Hon. William E. Dodge, Hon. Edward A. Lambert, and Messrs. Thomas Bond and Walter S. Griffith, be re-elected, and, in place of Mr. Joseph N. Tuttle, Mr. Nathan Lane be elected, members of the Permanent Committee, for the next three years.

The Joint Committee of Conference of the two Assemblies recommended that a joint religious service be held this evening in the Second Presbyterian church of this city, and a joint sacramental service be held in the First Presbyterian church on Wednesday evening.

The recommendation was adopted.

On the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, the Presbytery of Lake Superior was transferred from the Synod of Michigan to the Synod of Wisconsin.

On the report of the same Committee, the Synod of Geneva was authorized to meet on the third, instead of the last, Tuesday of September next.

On the report of the same Committee, upon evidence of the orderly organization of the Presbytery of Osage, it was *Ordered*, That the Presbytery of Osage be hereby recognized and attached to the Synod of Missouri.

Resolved, That the Assembly recommend its churches to observe the first week in January (beginning with the first Sabbath) as a week of prayer for the Conversion of the World.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Records of the Synods of Michigan, Albany, Utica, Onondaga, Susquehanna, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Ohio, Indiana, Wabash, Illinois, Peoria, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Tennessee, were, on the recommendation of the respective examining Committees, approved as far as written.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account reported that they had examined the account with the vouchers, and found it to be correct; and they recommended that it be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. The report was adopted. [247]

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee to whom was referred the second annual report of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, respectfully report:

That they have had the same under careful consideration, and find in it much cause for gratitude to Almighty God for the success which has already crowned our efforts in this matter, and much also for serious thought in view of that which remains to be done.

The report of the Executive Committee shows, that the General Assembly did not move one moment too soon to provide for the wants of her disabled ministers and their families. We now wonder that it was a subject neglected so long. It shows also how ready the churches are to respond to this just appeal when once it is brought before them. It is no small thing that, with so little effort, the contributions to this cause should have doubled in the past year.

And yet it is manifest that we have but just made a reasonable beginning in the work thus committed to our hands. There must be many clergymen and families of deceased ministers in want whose cases are not yet reached. Many cannot yet know that such relief is provided for their need, or how to obtain it; and many of the churches manifestly do not seem to know that such a fund has been projected and needs their generous contributions, for only one hundred and thirty, out of the one thousand four hundred and seventy-nine churches connected with this Assembly, have remembered this cause in the past year.

Your Committee are confident, that if all our churches could have heard the reading of the report of the Executive Committee as it was presented to this body, or could look in upon some of the families of dear and honored ministers of the Gospel whose wants were presented, there would hardly be a church in all our connection which would fail to remember this cause by a generous contribution. Your Committee are sure, that this subject is not yet before our churches as it should be, and has not that consideration which its great importance demands.

To express the sense of the Assembly on this subject, your Committee propose the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the ministers of our churches be requested at an early day to call the attention of their people to the peculiar wants for which this fund aims to provide.

Resolved, 2. That it be considered the duty of every church to take an annual collection for this cause.

Resolved, 3. That the attention of the Presbyteries be again called to this subject, and that they be earnestly requested each year to appoint one of their own number specially to look after this matter, and to see, if possible, that collections be taken in all the churches within their bounds. [248]

Resolved, 4. That the Executive Committee be instructed to publish their annual report, or an abstract thereof, in the religious papers, for the information of the churches.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection presented their report, which was accepted, and put on the docket.

The Brick Presbyterian church of the city of Rochester, New York, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

Ordered, That the further morning sessions of the Assembly commence at 9 o'clock with the devotional exercises.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Reports were received from the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met in 1865 at Pittsburgh, Pa.; from the Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Delegate to the General Convention of the Congregational Churches of Maine; from the Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; from the Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; and from the Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Rev. Benjamin F. Ray, the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Communications were received from the Rev. Rowland B. Howard, Delegate from the General Convention of the Congregational Churches of Maine, and from the Rev. Theodore Monod, on behalf of the Union of Evangelical Churches of France.

A communication from the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland was read, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. To this communication, the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., were appointed a *Committee to prepare* and report a suitable *response*.

In accordance with previous invitation, the Rev. James McCosh, LL.D., addressed the Assembly in reference to the condition of the Non-Conformist Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain. [249]

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was taken from the docket. Pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., Rev. Samuel M. Campbell, D. D., Rev.

Charles P. Bush, and Messrs. Louis Chapin, William Alling, George W. Parsons, and Edwin T. Huntington, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was resumed.

Pending its consideration, the

Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was resumed.

After discussion, the principal portion of the report, exclusive of the amended plan, was adopted by the following vote: Ayes, 180; Noes, 9; Absent, or not voting, 26.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministers' Libraries presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministers' Libraries respectfully report: [250]

That in the autumn of last year a circular of inquiry was prepared and sent to seven hundred pastors and stated supplies, and also published in our religious journals. To these circulars, one hundred replies have been received. From these replies it appears that one-fifth of the churches have manses, and one-tenth have libraries for the use of their ministers.

These replies convey a strong impression of the great importance of the subject-matter of the circular, and express the hope that the General Assembly will use every means in its power, to bring the subject before and urge it upon the attention and practical regard of the churches. They also suggest the idea of creating a general fund for the erection of manses.

Without expressing any opinion upon the expediency of the latter suggestion, your Committee deem it both advisable and practicable, to bring the matter definitely before the churches through the action of the Presbyteries.

They, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly direct its Presbyteries to send to the churches under their care a pastoral letter of inquiry and suggestion, with reference to the provision of a manse and a library for the use of the minister in charge of each congregation.

Resolved, 2. That the Presbyteries be requested to embody, in a report to the next General Assembly, any information that may be obtained in the answers to the proposed inquiry, with their judgment concerning the creation of a manse fund, and also any practical suggestions appertaining to the subject-matter of manses and ministers' libraries.

The Committee were continued.

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools presented their report, which was accepted and placed on the docket.

The Assembly then proceeded to the further consideration of the remaining portion of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection.

The amendments and additions to the existing Plan of Church Erection were, with the articles amended or substituted, severally adopted, and then the entire Plan, including the Preamble, Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and the Supplementary Article, as reported by the Committee and amended by the Assembly, were adopted, as a complete substitute for the existing Plan of Church Erection, by the following vote: Ayes, 172; Noes, 20; Absent, or not voting, 25.

The report and Plan thus adopted are as follows: [251]

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHURCH ERECTION.

By the twelfth annual report of the Trustees of the Assembly's Church Erection Fund, it is painfully apparent that this Fund is but imperfectly accomplishing its original design. The amount of the Fund in 1856 was $100,000. Now, after ten years' use, it has increased to over $127,000, $80,000 of which, at least, remain in the hands of the Board, subject to the call of the churches. Year by year the applications for aid become fewer. But $2775 were taken from the treasury last year, in the form of loans, and but $400 in the form of donations. Meanwhile the receipts from the churches on account of loans, donations, and interest, have been over $7000, which, added to the interest accruing on the Fund itself—nearly $5000—constitute an actual increase of the unemployed Fund, after deducting expenses, etc., of about $7000.

The reason of this is not that the aid which might be afforded by this Fund is undesired. The more wealthy churches in all our large centres have been besieged with applications for assistance in church building, as pertinaciously as if there were no Fund for that purpose in existence. Large amounts have been given in answer to such appeals, by the very churches which originally contributed to the now neglected treasury, from which it was expected all feeble churches would draw. So pressing, in fact, have been the applications, that it is manifest that the whole Fund, if accessible on terms favorable to the churches, would soon be completely absorbed.

The reason of such neglect must be looked for in the practical working of the Plan on which the Fund has been administered. That Plan was most carefully devised. It embodied the wisdom of some of the most eminent men in our Church. For the period when it was adopted it was most excellent. But since its adoption a great change has taken place in our position and circumstances. The last ten years have been revolutionary. The nation has trembled under the shock of war. We have passed through financial embarrassments, and borne the brunt of a struggle which has cost our churches some of their choicest blood. Debts incurred for the erection of houses of worship have become burdensome. The churches have, in many instances, been depressed by the very means through which they sought to gain strength. Obligations to the General Assembly have often been borne, under the disadvantage of contrasts, drawn between the policy upon which our Plan of Church Erection and that of some of our sister denominations is based. The result has been that the Fund has fallen into disfavor. Churches needing assistance have been advised, in some cases by synodical or presbyterial action, not to encumber themselves with loans such as others had found it so unpleasant to bear, and so difficult to pay. At the same time the cost of building has so enormously increased, that $200 form but [252] a comparatively insignificant item in the expense of constructing an ordinary house of worship; worth applying for, indeed—but not desired under the conditions upon which it was to be obtained.

There is, therefore, an imperative call for a modification of the Plan of administering our Church Erection Fund. And this call becomes the more imperative, when we consider that the rapid extension of the lines of traffic has made cities of villages, and villages of hamlets. Where, ten years since, it was supposed a few hundred dollars would suffice for the wants of the people, as many thousand dollars are now found to be insufficent. An almost unanticipated necessity has arisen to establish churches at key-points, and to provide them with commodious and attractive sanctuaries. The spirit of the times has changed. A new impulse, felt by all denominations, has been given to Domestic Missions. Looking toward the glowing future of our country, we are incited to new exertions for its evangelization. Among the ruling ideas of the day this is prominent: that to provide a church edifice is almost as important as to provide a missionary, and that the work of church erection must be carried forward upon the same enlarged and liberal scale which is adopted for the support of ministers of the Gospel. Were the idea a false one, to resist it would be like stemming the currents of the Mississippi in a flood; but your Committee believe it to involve a true principle, though it, like all other ruling ideas, is liable to unnatural freshet.

This Assembly has assumed the work of Domestic Missions, as it had not when its Church Erection Fund was established. Then that work was committed to the American Home Missionary Society.

Now that we have entered this field side by side with our sister denominations, we must carry on our work with an energy and a liberality like theirs.

In view of these considerations, your Committee believe that, could the whole Fund be immediately scattered among our feeble churches in the form of donations, without interest or return of any kind while the churches aided should remain in our connection, the effect would be most happy. This we believe to be desired by many on the floor of this Assembly. Were such a course possible, we should favor it. But a careful examination of the whole case has brought your Committee to the stubborn conclusion, so often reached by others who have surveyed the same ground, that such a disposition of the Fund was rendered impossible by the very terms on which it was collected. It was to be a permanent Fund. To destroy its permanency would be a breach of trust, which might and which ought to be legally resisted. The legal opinions submitted to the Assembly by the Board of Trustees, place this position beyond reasonable dispute.

The question, therefore, is, how the mode of administering the [253] Fund shall be so changed as to make it most useful to the churches. After mature deliberation, your Committee recommend the abandonment of the system of loans, and the adoption of that of donations, upon the following Plan, namely:

1. That the whole of the Fund now in the hands of the Board, together with such receipts as may return in fulfilment of pledges from the churches already aided by loans and donations, and together with whatever may be hereafter contributed to the Fund, be securely and permanently invested.

2. That the accruing interest be annually distributed by the Board, on proper conditions and in proper proportions, to churches applying therefor, in the form of donations without interest and without pledge of return, except in case the church or congregation thus assisted shall cease to be connected with the General Assembly, or their corporate existence shall cease, or their house of worship be alienated, except for the building or purchase of a better house of worship.

As supplementary to this, your Committee recommend that a collection be taken annually by all our churches, to be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Board, to be used by them in the same manner as the accruing interest of the Fund.

The necessary amendments of the Assembly's Plan, together with all essential details, are submitted herewith. It is believed that in these changes no legal principle is sacrificed, and that the utmost practical efficiency in the use of the Fund is secured.

Your Committee cannot but regard it as a providential indication of the wisdom of these proposed changes, that they have been suggested to several different minds without concert, and that they have been regarded with favor before this by those high in position in our Church, as will be seen by reference to the report of the Special Committee, to whom this whole subject was referred by the Assembly of 1863.

Your Committee would also recommend to the Assembly to consider the expediency of appointing a General Secretary of the Board, whose duty it shall be to discharge the functions in this Board which are discharged in the Committee of Home Missions by its Secretary.

It becomes our duty to nominate three Trustees to fill the places of Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. William A. Booth, whose term of office is soon to expire. We cordially recommend that the same gentlemen be re-elected.

A few Overtures have been referred to the Committee, upon the consideration of which we ask further time. [254]

PLAN FOR THE CUSTODY, CARE, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CHURCH ERECTION FUND.

Preamble.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, now holding its sessions in the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, having, through the liberality of the congregations connected with this body, established a Fund for the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in erecting houses of worship, do hereby adopt the following Plan, under which this Fund shall be held, administered, and used:

Article I.

This Fund having been committed to the General Assembly as a special trust, no part of it as now established, nor any additions which may hereafter be made to it, shall ever be used for any other purpose than that of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the General Assembly in erecting houses of worship; except so much as may be absolutely necessary to defray the expenses incident to the administration of this Plan.

Article II.

The custody, care, and management of this Fund, and of all securities of every kind belonging to it, or growing out of it, together with all claims, dues, and property that may at any time pertain to it, and all additions that may hereafter be made to it by donations, bequests, or otherwise, shall be committed to a Board of Trustees, to be called "The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America." The Board shall consist of nine members, four of them being ministers and five of them elders, in connection with some Presbytery or church under the care of the General Assembly, who shall reside in the city of New York, or its immediate vicinity, and whom the General Assembly shall elect by ballot, on a nomination to be made at least one day before such election. The Trustees shall continue in office until the election and induction of their successors. The certificate of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly shall be necessary to entitle a Trustee to take his seat as a member of the Board, which certificate it shall be his duty to furnish as soon as practicable after the election.

The Trustees first elected shall arrange themselves into three equal classes. The term of office of the first class shall expire in one year from their election; that of the second class in two years; and that of the third class in three years. After the first election, the General Assembly shall annually elect three Trustees, to supply the place of the class whose term is about to expire, to hold their office for three years, the same persons [255] always being re-eligible; and each General Assembly shall also by election supply any vacancy in the Board, caused by death, resignation, or otherwise. If any Trustee shall, during the term for which he is elected, cease to be connected with a Presbytery or church under the care of the General Assembly, he shall thereby cease to be a member of the Board; and the vacancy shall be reported to the next General Assembly.

Article III.

The first meeting of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday of June next, in the city of New York, at such place and hour as the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly may appoint, who shall preside until the Board is organized by the choice of its President.

Article IV.

The Board shall make their own By-Laws. They shall annually, at their first meeting after the adjournment of the General Assembly, elect one of their number President of the Board; and shall appoint a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall give security to the Board for the faithful performance of his duties. They shall keep complete books of record and account, in which shall be recorded all their proceedings, and the true state at all times of all matters relating to this Fund; which records and accounts, or any part of them, shall at all times be open to the inspection of any committee appointed by the General Assembly for this purpose. They shall also keep full and correct copies and files of all the correspondence which may be conducted or received by them, or in their name; and shall annually present to the General Assembly, not later than the third day of its sessions, a full written report of their proceedings and of the state of the Fund, together with any suggestions or recommendations which they may deem necessary or suitable. The General Assembly shall annually appoint a Committee of three, to audit the accounts and to examine the securities of the Board, and to report at the next General Assembly.

Article V.

The Board are hereby directed, either by procuring a special act of the Legislature of the State of New York, or in accordance with the existing statutes of said State, to incorporate themselves, and their successors in office, always to be elected as aforesaid, into a body corporate and politic, invested with all such legal powers as may be necessary to enable them to hold and administer this Fund, in conformity with the provisions of this Plan.

ARTICLE VI.

The Board is directed to invest and to keep at interest on suf[256]ficient security the Fund as now established, and as the same shall hereafter be increased by gift, bequest, or otherwise.

ARTICLE VII.

The accruing interest of the Fund thus established shall be apportioned by the Board among the Synods, as their exigencies may require, and be distributed, by said Board, at their discretion, to such congregations as make applications therefor, on the conditions, and subject to the limitations, hereinafter prescribed.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Board shall prepare blank forms of all such legal and other papers as may be required for the proper distribution and management of the Fund and accruing interest; and they shall furnish a sufficient quantity of such forms to the Committee on Church Extension of each Synod; the forms so prepared and furnished, and none others, shall be used in all matters and transactions relating to the Fund, to which they may be applicable. They shall designate such legal advisers within the bounds of each Synod, as by a correspondence with the Church Extension Committees of the Synods may be found desirable, to examine all certificates of title, and all conveyances and other documents connected with the donation of any part of the accruing interest, including a careful investigation in regard to the legal incorporation of the Board of Trustees of the congregations concerned; and they shall further have power to appoint an agent in each Synod, and to require that all payments of money that may become due to this Fund shall be made to such agent.

ARTICLE IX.

In order to be entitled to the use of any portion of the accruing interest, each Synod connected with the General Assembly shall annually elect a Committee on Church Extension, consisting of at least five members. The Stated Clerk of the Synod shall, immediately after the election of the said Committee, transmit to the President or Secretary of the Board his certificate of such election, giving the name and residence of each member.

ARTICLE X.

All applications for aid from the accruing interest shall be made, in the first instance, to the Committee on Church Extension of the Synod to which the applicants belong, or within whose bounds they are situated. Every such application shall be in writing, and shall particularly state: The location of the house or site for its erection; the number of families or persons attached to the congregation, or that propose to unite in building a house of worship; the description of the house which they [257] propose to build, with its estimated and probable cost, or the description and cost of the house and lot owned by the congregation; the amount of reliable subscriptions that have been obtained, and how much has been paid thereon; the amount of available means possessed by the congregation, if any; whether the congregation is in debt, and if so, to what amount, and when the same becomes due; and also any other facts which may aid the Committee of the Synod in judging of the application. This application shall be accompanied by the certificate of one of the legal advisers of the Board, that the title to the lot on which the house is built or to be built, is vested in said congregation, and is free from all legal incumbrance and liability.

ARTICLE XI.

If the Committee of the Synod, to whom application for aid has been made as above provided, shall, after a careful examination into the condition and prospects of the congregation so applying, be satisfied that such congregation have done all that should reasonably be expected of them, and that, with the aid which can be afforded from the accruing interest and the voluntary contributions hereinafter mentioned, they can build or possess a house of worship adapted to their wants, and be free from indebtedness; then the Committee shall sign a certificate addressed to the Board, stating the application, and that they have examined and approved of it; and also stating the amount which it is proper to donate to the congregation. This certificate, together with the application made to the Committee of the Synod, shall be transmitted to the Board. On the receipt thereof in due form, the Board shall, as soon as practicable, if the application is granted, forward the necessary papers, to be executed by the Trustees of the congregation, and to be approved by their legal adviser, or some other attorney proposed by the congregation and accepted by the Board. When the papers, so executed, approved, and properly recorded, are returned to the Board, they shall authorize the Treasurer of the Trustees of the congregation, or any other person duly appointed by them for this purpose, to draw on the Treasurer of the Board for the amount thus applied for and donated.

ARTICLE XII.

The Board shall not in any case donate any portion of the accruing interest to any congregation, unless such congregation own, in fee simple and free from all legal incumbrance, the lot on which their house of worship is situated, or on which they propose to build; nor shall any donation be made for the payment of any debt, except that which may have been contracted within one year previous in erecting a house of worship.

The sum donated to any congregation shall never be more than one-half of the amount contributed and secured by them for the house and lot. [258]

The condition of all donations from this source, shall be, that, in case the church or congregation shall cease to be connected with the General Assembly, or their corporate existence shall cease, or their house of worship be alienated except for the building or purchase of a better house of worship, they shall refund to the Board the amount which they have so received, with interest from the time of receiving it.

The fulfilment of the above condition shall, in all cases, be secured by the bond of the Trustees of the congregation, and a mortgage on their house and lot, made in favor of the Board; which bond and mortgage, duly executed and recorded, shall always be placed in the possession of the Board, before any money is paid over to the congregation.

ARTICLE XIII.

In accepting this trust and adopting this Plan, the General Assembly hereby declares, that the first article shall admit of no alteration or amendment, and that no change shall be made in any other part of the Plan by any future General Assembly, except by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members whose names have been entered upon the Roll.

Supplementary Article.

As supplementary to this Plan, and in order to enable the Board fully to meet all the reasonable demands of feeble congregations for aid in erecting houses of public worship, the General Assembly earnestly recommends all the congregations within its bounds to take up annual collections, and transmit them to the Treasurer of the Board, to be appropriated by said Board, and distributed by gift for the objects contemplated in the Plan, and on the conditions and limitations prescribed therein.

And the better to secure this end, it shall be the duty of the Board to present, with their annual report, an estimate of the amount probably needed for the ensuing year, together with the facts and reasons upon which such estimate is based, in order that the Assembly may determine the amount it will recommend the churches to raise by voluntary contribution.

It was further, *Resolved*, 1. That the plan of Church Erection now adopted be put into operation upon, and take effect from, the first day of August, 1866.

Resolved, 2. That, in accordance with the suggestion contained in the foregoing report of the Standing Committee, the Board of Trustees of Church Erection be directed to appoint a Secretary, whose relations to the Board and whose functions of office shall correspond with those of the Corresponding Secretary of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection further reported [259] the recommendation that the Overtures and applications for aid made to this Assembly be referred to the Board of Trustees of Church Erection, with instructions that they afford all possible help to such of these churches applying as have special claims for consideration. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until this evening, at 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and united with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city, and a large number of fellow-Christians, in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After the service, adjourned until Friday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Friday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first hour was occupied with devotional services.

The Minutes of the sessions of Wednesday afternoon and evening were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry presented their report, which was accepted. Pending its consideration,

The Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry was resumed.

The report, with an additional resolution, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry report that they have given their attention to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education, which was placed in their hands.

They find gratifying evidence of enlargement in both directions—that of means, and that of candidates for the ministry. The [260] amount of funds is about the same as last year. The increase in young men is thirty-five per cent. Though the amount paid to each young man is considerably in advance of former years, as ordered by the last General Assembly, the Permanent Committee have been enabled to fulfil their engagements. No suitable applicant for aid has been turned away empty. It is believed, that the importance of the Educational cause in successfully carrying forward the kingdom of Christ is being more generally realized, and a deeper and more permanent state of feeling is being awakened on the subject.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding all that is calculated to cheer our hearts, and encourage the Permanent Committee to go forward in their chosen work, the pressing demands of the Church in this direction have not been met. All our efforts are disproportionate to the calls of Providence. At the present rate of bringing forward young men into the ministry, the vacancies made by the superannuated and the dead only are filled. When it is considered, how many are taken from the active duties of the ministry to become presidents and professors in our Colleges, instructors in our Theological Seminaries, and secretaries and agents in our benevolent operations, (and there seems to be no better way,) and the number who turn aside through failure of health, it is not surprising that the demand should outrun the supply. Not to mention the wants of the older States, when we consider the fields that are constantly opening before us in the newer portions of the country, the case is truly alarming. Our excellent Secretary of Home Missions tells us in his report that we have no missionary in Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Washington, and the State of Oregon—not because there are not calls for men, but because the men cannot be found. The report also on Foreign Missions speaks of an equal want of men for the missionary work abroad. The cry for men, almost frantic, from East Tennessee, uttered on this floor, still rings in our ears. The claims of the freedmen, also, for a preached Gospel cannot be ignored.

Standing as we do at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri, pouring their flood-tide of waters at our feet to the ocean; turning the eye from this central position to the North, the West, and the South; viewing the present population and the long lines of emigration, both home and foreign; passing up these mighty rivers and their numerous tributaries; marking the moral forces already at work on this field, "the man of sin," as in this city, strongly intrenched with churches, schools, and institutions for charitable purposes, and commanding millions of money, the old fanaticism of the early Church revived on the banks of the Rhine in the form of Rationalism and Pantheism now transplanted and made to flourish on American soil, and the motley crew of materialism and infidelity of indigenous origin—contemplating all this, the Educational cause in preparing men for the ministry becomes of vital importance. Viewed in its related as[261]pects, and in the interests dependent upon an educated ministry, the Educational cause should receive far more of the prayers and contributions of the Church. Pious parents should dedicate their sons to the ministry. The elders should seek out promising young men, and confer with them on the subject. Pastors should confer with young men recently converted to God, and roll the burden of preaching the Gospel upon their hearts. Presbyterian committees on this subject should be more faithful. Scholarships to the amount of twenty-five hundred dollars each should be secured, the interest of which will yield the annual appropriation to one young man.

The day of fasting and prayer for Colleges, Seminaries, and other institutions of learning, should be more generally observed. Collections, not in a few but in all the churches, should be statedly taken up. The Plan of the General Assembly is a good one, and has worked well. It is only needful that presbyters, and pastors, and churches be more faithful in putting it into operation.

The Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the demand for educated ministers in our country was never greater than at the present time.

Resolved, 2. That the Educational cause should occupy a higher place in the estimation of pastors and the Church.

Resolved, 3. That the day of fasting and prayer for Colleges, and other institutions of learning, be faithfully observed; that pious parents consecrate their sons to the work of the ministry; that this subject be annually presented from the pulpit; and that continual prayer be offered to the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth many more laborers into his harvest.

Resolved, 4. That the appropriation to young men for the past year be the same, namely, thirty-three per cent. above what the rule requires; one hundred and sixty dollars to a theological, one hundred and thirty dollars to a collegiate, and one hundred dollars to a preparatory student.

The names of the following persons are presented to fill the vacancy occurring by the expiration of the term of office in the class elected in 1863: John J. Owen, D. D., LL.D., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Jesse W. Benedict, Esq., William W. Wicks, and Charles Taylor.

As supplementary to their report, the Committee report that they have examined the "Memorial of the Presbytery of Union to the General Assembly in relation to Maryville College," and also have listened to remarks from brethren in relation to other institutions of learning in East Tennessee.

The Committee are gratified to see so much interest manifested in the subject of Education, and express the hope that all these institutions may be retained in the service of the Church.

Resolved, That the general subject of Education, in connection [262] with our Church in East Tennessee, be favorably received by our churches; and that what funds may be raised shall be expended under the direction of the Presbyteries of East Tennessee, until the Synod of Tennessee shall have taken the whole subject under its care.

Resolved, That this Assembly recommend the Rev. Lucius I. Root as an agent to raise funds for this object, according to the above resolution.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Church Erection, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, A sum not less than $35,000, in addition to the interest accruing from the Permanent Fund, will probably be required for the aid of feeble churches this year, in providing houses of worship for their use; therefore

Resolved, 1. That the third Sabbath of December next be fixed as the day for a general collection for the purpose of raising this sum, and that our Presbyteries and pastors be requested to use their utmost endeavors to secure the full amount designated.

Resolved, 2. That the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Church Erection be requested to prepare an address to the churches in connection with this Assembly, explanatory of the changes introduced into the Plan, and urging the necessity for a liberal contribution to the Fund, to be distributed in aid of the feeble congregations contemplated by the "Supplementary Article" of the Plan, and that the address be published in all the papers of the denomination.

The Special Committee on the State of the Country presented a report, which was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the State of the Country propose to the Assembly the following declaration:

This Assembly records its devout gratitude to Almighty God, that He has delivered us from the calamities and horrors of civil war, and restored peace throughout our borders:

That He has so far quelled the spirit of secession that the supreme and rightful authority of our beneficent National Government is now restored in all our States and Territories, and we remain, as we were intended to be, one Nation, with one Constitution, and one destiny:

That He has so overruled the progress and results of this unparalleled conflict as to make it manifest that our republican institutions are as well fitted to bear the stress and shock of war as to give prosperity and increase in times of peace:

That, by His wise and constraining providence, guiding us in ways we knew not, He has caused the passions and wrath of man to enure to the welfare of humanity, so that a whole race has been emancipated from an unjust and cruel system of bondage, [263] and advanced to the rights and dignity of freemen; so that now involuntary servitude, except for crime, is illegal and unconstitutional wherever our national authority extends:

That He gave to our people such a spontaneous, impassioned, and unbought loyalty—a loyalty that can neither be forced nor feigned—such resolute and abiding faith, and such a supreme consciousness of our national unity, that we were able, in the darkest hours, to bear with cheerful patriotism our heavy burdens and our costly sacrifices, so that our very sacrifices have knit us more closely together, and made us love our country more:

That He has purged and enlightened our national conscience in respect to our national sins, especially the sin of Slavery; and has also made us recognize more fully than before the reality of Divine Providence, the sureness and justice of retribution for national guilt, and the grand fact that a nation can be exalted and safe only as it yields obedience to His righteous laws:

That He bestowed such grace upon our churches and ministry, that with singular unanimity and zeal they upheld our rightful Government, by their unwavering testimony and effectual supplications, identifying the success of the nation with the welfare of the Church:

That, above all these things, He has, according to His gracious promise, watched over His Church and kept it safe during these troublous times; so that not only has our American Christianity been vindicated, our faith and order maintained intact, and our Christian benevolence enhanced, but our purpose and plans for the future have been also enlarged in some proportion to the needs and growth of our country; while, to crown all these favors with His special benediction, He has also, in these latter days, rained down spiritual blessings in abundant measure upon so many churches all over the land.

This Assembly, while humbly recognizing these judgments and mercies in the past and the present, also bears testimony in respect to our urgent needs and duties as a nation, in view of the new era upon which we are now entering, as follows, namely:

1. Our most solemn national trust concerns that patient race, so long held in unrighteous bondage. Only as we are just to them can we live in peace and safety. Freed by the national arms, they must be protected in all their

civil rights by the national power. And, as promoting this end, which far transcends any mere political or party object, we rejoice that the active functions of the Freedmen's Bureau are still continued; and especially that the Civil Rights Bill has become the law of the land. In respect to the concession of the right of suffrage to the colored race, this Assembly adheres to the resolution passed by our Assembly of 1865, (Minutes, p. 42:) "That the colored man should in this country enjoy the right of suffrage, in common with all other men, is but a simple dictate of justice. The Assembly can-[264] not perceive any good reason why he should be deprived of this right on the ground of his color or his race." Even if suffrage may not be universal, let it at least be impartial.

2. In case such impartial suffrage is not conceded, that we may still reap the legitimate fruits of our national victory over Secession and Slavery, and, that treason and rebellion may not enure to the direct political advantage of the guilty, we judge it to be a simple act of justice, that the constitutional basis of representation in Congress should be so far altered as to meet the exigencies growing out of the abolition of Slavery; and we likewise hold it to be the solemn duty of our National Executive and Congress, to adopt only such methods of reconstruction as shall effectually protect all loyal persons in the States lately in revolt.

3. As loyalty is the highest civic virtue, and treason the highest civil crime, so it is necessary for the due vindication and satisfaction of national justice, that the chief fomenters and representatives of the rebellion should, by due course and process of law, be visited with condign punishment.

4. The Christian religion being the underlying source of all our power, prosperity, freedom, and national unity, we earnestly exhort all our ministers and churches to constant and earnest prayer for the President of the United States and his constitutional counsellors; for the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled; for the judges in our national courts; for those that bear rule in our army and navy; and for all persons intrusted with authority; that they may be endued with heavenly wisdom, and rule in the fear of the Lord, and so administer their high trusts, without self-seeking or partiality, that this great Republic, being delivered from its enemies, may renew its youth, and put forth all its strength in the ways of truth and righteousness, for the good of our own land and the welfare of mankind.

5. And we further exhort and admonish the members of our churches to diligent and personal efforts for the safety and prosperity of the nation, to set aside all partisan and sectional aims and low ambitions, and to do their full duty as Christian freemen; to the end that our Christian and Protestant civilization may maintain its legitimate ascendency, and that we become not the prey of any form of infidelity, or subject to any foreign priestly domination; that the sacred interests of civil and religious freedom, of human rights and justice to all, of national loyalty and national unity, may be enlarged and perpetuated, making our Christian commonwealth a praise among the nations of the earth, exemplifying and speeding the progress of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing report be sent to the President of the United States, through the Secretary of State, to the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their [265] report, which was accepted. Pending its consideration the Assembly

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., secretary of the American and Foreign Christian Union, addressed the Assembly with reference to the operations of that Society.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was resumed. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, in making their report. would suggest that there are three things in which the Assembly are agreed, viz.: That the work before us is great beyond conception and competition, that the Church is the proper agency for doing it, and now the favoring time, admitting no postponement.

Love of adventure, lust of gain, the march of enterprise, the great tidal movement westward of the nations, and finally, but not less providentially, sedition and war, have been busy clearing and widening the home field for the Church's occupancy. Within the months just past, the Holy Spirit has arisen, and most earnestly invited to the cultivation of the ground, and in many instances to the gathering of already rich harvests. The Church could not be heedless of these signs, without ignoring her manifest mission and destiny in this land. She has heeded them, and hence the marvels that have occupied her way, as in the ancient journeying from Goshen to Canaan: "God has been in the midst of her; he has helped her, and that right early." Is her mission therefore fulfilled? Do we not know, on the contrary, that the land to be possessed is more than the territory already subdued?

From Maine to Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific wave, from the Great Lakes to the Southern Gulf, how wide the field stretches out; its needs, even in the older States, East, Middle, and South, how numerous; in the States and Territories West and North-west how immense and stupendous!

The question of opportunity being settled by Divine Providence, that of the way and means of fulfilling both, presses heavily on our hearts. We can hope, on this point, to do little more than emphasize the suggestions of the report already submitted.

We need, of course, to this end a great increase of the Christ[266]ian ministry. We say increase, because its actually effective portion is already employed, up to the full measure of its capability. If the West has not an adequate supply of ministers, it is because the East cannot spare them. Those whom she can spare as well as not are such as the West do not want; and those she knows not how to spare have already been drawn upon beyond her means. The weakening of the Eastern Church by withdrawing an efficient pastor is simply at the cost also of the West, by cutting off supplies of men and money necessary to its sustenance, and is allowable only under the plea of some peculiar and dominant necessity.

We can, therefore, meet the demand for ministers only by an increase of candidates for the ministry. And to accomplish this, the piety of the Church must be deepened, and its channels opened and widened in this direction. The attention of our youth must be summoned to this claim on their talents, as a reason why they should anew, or for the first time, consecrate them to Christ. Parents must be made to feel the duty of training and yielding their children to a work so inviting and remunerating. Ministers and elders must take this matter into their special charge; seeking to gain our young men, not by worldly considerations, whether of a literary or pecuniary sort, but by pointing them to the grand opportunities here afforded of usefulness to God and their country through the same earnest consecration and cheerful self-denial, so conspicuously illustrated in the examples of Christ and his apostles.

Next to the provision of preachers is that of preaching places. By this is not meant congregations, which already exist in greater numbers than we can supply, but houses of worship for these congregations. We have cause to understand that there can be no progressive and permanent church edification without a church edifice. It is as much needed for minister and people as houses to live are needed for them. The attention of the Assembly has been so thoroughly called to this subject, the present session, that we need not enlarge upon it.

What we have most required is a settled policy that should not be constantly discussed and revised, but that should be put into instant and persistent operation. It is to be hoped, from the action just taken by this Assembly, that we have now reached that point. We know better than heretofore what we have need to do, and what we are able to do—that which remains is to do it. The chief discouraging hindrance of a debated plan being removed, let us arise and build. Let the gift fund be swelled as the loan fund never was. The wants of the Great West have become measurably appreciated by this convocation on the right bank of the Mississippi; and let us return to our congregations to report what our eyes have seen and our ears heard, and thus prepare our people for new and more liberal benefactions to this object, at some not remote day to be agreed upon for a united effort. In this way we shall best silence the voice of complaint, [267] issuing from so many promising missionary centres, and telling how the Word of God is stayed for lack of houses of worship. The next report at our General Assembly will be that of gratitude for the unhindered upbuilding of Zion's waste places.

The money question, however, does not pertain to the Church Erection Fund only, but to all departments of the missionary work. That it demands new discussion is evident from the Treasurer's statistics. One of these discloses the average annual contribution on the part of our membership of barely 63 cents, which is $5\frac{3}{5}$ cents per month, or a cent and a quarter per week. If we have made advances in later over former years, it is clear there is still wide room for improvement. It needs but a glance at the greatness of our work to reveal the inadequacy of our efforts. It needs but another glance at the vastness of our resources to expose an exceeding parsimony in their disposal.

One important suggestion the Committee would offer in this connection. It relates to Christian giving as a duty to be enforced on every church not only, but on every individual. It is not enough that contributions should be taken in the Sabbath congregation; but in addition to this, or instead of it, by collectors passing through the congregation, and calling upon each family and person. A general observance of this plan would, it is believed, immediately increase our total receipts 75 or 100 per cent.

The Committee recommend, that an effort be made to realize an average contribution of at least $1 per member the present year. This would insure a total collection of $120,000, and would require a marked advance in our wealthy as well as feeble churches.

Meanwhile the home missionary work enlarges upon our hands, and calls for an immediate increase of faith, labor, and prayer. There is no real source of discouragement but in the narrowness of our own hearts. There is no department of effort into which we have entered with any vigor, upon which God has not shed his approving and inspiring favor. Witness to this the blessing attending our special effort in behalf of East Tennessee, in a discouraged and distracted church reinspirited, dispersed congregations regathered, in pastors settled over long vacant parishes, and the revival of religion experienced in unprecedented power. Witness the story told by delegates from all parts of the land, of the descending and quickening Spirit.

Even the labors employed on behalf of our foreign population, usually regarded as far from hopeful access, have not been without significant results. The Presbytery of Newark, after a sixteen years' experiment among the Germans, have now, as its fruit, six churches organized on a Presbyterian basis, all but one furnished with houses of worship, with settled pastors, good congregations, a vigorous prospective growth, and a healthful, positive influence going out upon the surrounding population in behalf of Sabbath observance, temperance, social order, and every [268] moral and spiritual interest. The example thus set us by the Presbytery of Newark, and already emulated by Philadelphia and Cincinnati, should rebuke the prevailing scepticism on this subject.

There is a grave responsibility laid upon us here, and we may not shirk it. Let us remember that while the Irish immigration is fed by a home supply of six and a half millions, the German springs from a fountain-head of forty millions. Not to care for this industrious, enterprising, and accessible people is to take very poor care of our own most valuable interests.

Our labors for the native freedman, so far as we have prosecuted them, have been reasonably successful. Here, again, it is our straitened faith that produces our limited efficiency. If the millions of China and Caffraria are to be evangelized, how much more these multitudes at our own doors! While Slavery has depressed the adult negro population too low for even Christianity easily to elevate them, it is to be noted that 1,150,000 of this race are between the ages of five and fifteen, and thus as impressible as any class of our white population by educating and evangelizing influences. This, with the almost equally needed work to be done for the poorer whites of the South, is a labor sufficient of itself to tax our utmost energies.

Truly, God has everywhere set before us an open door throughout this broad and free land, and that which we need is the strength of Christian faith, love, and patience to pass in and occupy the goodly heritage.

The following persons are recommended for re-election in the place of those members of the present Committee whose term of service expires with this Assembly, viz., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Charles S. Robinson, Howard Crosby, D. D., A. C. Post, M. D., and Mr. George R. Lockwood.

The Assembly recommended that the report on the State of the Country be read in the churches on the first Sabbath of July next.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, and reply, as follows:

A church member comes before the session, makes a voluntary confession of heretical sentiments, acknowledges a breach of covenant, and waives the formality of a trial, in view of and in order to excommunication from the church.

Can such church member be excommunicated on such confession and declaration without the actual process prescribed by the Book?

The Committee find that the question thus raised was answered substantially by the last Assembly, (see Minutes, page 12;) and, whilst they recommend that the party asking it be referred to that response, they also recommend that the Assembly affirm the [269] impropriety of a church court reaching and recording such grave result of discipline as excommunication from the church, without a strict adherence to those forms of fair, impartial trial by which alone the result may be justified. If an accused person confess judgment, the actual process may be shortened, but should not be dispensed with.

The reply of the Committee was adopted.

The same Committee reported Overture No. 2, and reply, as follows:

Overture from certain members of the Presbytery of Madison:

We desire to make the following statement and inquiries:

A person is (we will suppose) under suspension in one of our own churches. He removes, and unites, on examination, with another of our churches, the session of the latter one being wholly ignorant of his former membership, and, of course, of his suspension. The facts are, however, afterward discovered.

Would this discovery, of itself, vitiate his second membership, and leave him simply a suspended member of the former church?

Would unworthiness for church membership, clearly manifested while in the latter church, and before said discovery, rightfully add any efficacy toward producing this result?

To the first of the above questions the Committee recommend an answer in the affirmative; to the second, if the question mean whether the session of the second church has jurisdiction in the case of unworthinesses manifested in the second relation, the Committee recommend an answer in the negative; but if the question mean whether the unworthinesses manifested in the second relation be proper ground of separate process by the session of the first church, the Committee recommend an answer in the affirmative. In respect to the whole case, the Committee agree in the statement following:

The person, uniting with the second church on examination, unites deceptively. So soon as the facts in the case are ascertained by the session of this second church, the proper order of procedure is, for this session, after conference with the accused person, to strike his name from their roll of church members as not under their jurisdiction, to communicate their action to the session suspending him, with the reasons for it, and to request the said session to proceed against him, on separate process, for duplicity and disorder.

The reply of the Committee was adopted.

The Rev. John W. Chickering, Jr., the Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows: [270]

The Standing Committee to whom were referred the fourteenth annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication and the twelfth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, having carefully examined the documents placed in their hands, would respectfully submit the following: That, from the time the General Assembly resolved to issue a distinctive literature, bearing its own imprimatur, setting forth and defending its own doctrines, there has been a gradual and growing interest in the work; doubt and distrust have given way to confidence; funds and facilities of usefulness have steadily increased; so that now there is an open field, hearty co-operation, and the universal conviction that the Publication cause is one of the mightiest instrumentalities committed to the Church for her vindication, her spiritual vitality, and her promised and permanent victory. Books issued by her own press are both the source and the indication of ecclesiastical and spiritual life—a power and a blessing which it is our privilege to wield and to enjoy. Your Committee rejoice, therefore, that the cause has passed the period of doubtful experiments and is now to be pushed and prosecuted with a vigor equal to its importance and to the increasing wants of the field that we occupy.

The past year is a prophecy of what is to be. The receipts have been greatly in advance of any previous year, and there has been a consequent increase in the number and value of the tracts and books issued and circulated. Still the field is widening; the calls are becoming more imperative and universal; the entire South and West are open; the cry comes up from the missionary, in his open yet half-occupied field, for books and tracts, authorized by the Church, wherewith to supplement his labors, and this is met by a whole chorus of voices from all the Sabbath-schools of the land, pleading for a life-giving and heaven-inspiring literature.

God's voice to the Church in this department of service evidently is, "Go forward." We cannot afford to pause; we must go up and possess the land.

It is the judgment of your Committee that some system of colportage should be inaugurated, under the supervision of the Synods or Presbyteries, securing a more extended circulation to the publications of the Committee. The plan suggested is this: Let each Synod or Presbytery employ a colporteur—a theological student—whose work shall be twofold—the disposal or sale of books (receiving his salary largely from commissions allowed) and co-operation with pastors in attending social meetings and aiming to extend a deep religious interest throughout the bounds of the Presbytery or Synod. This would help many a deserving young man in his preparatory course, give a wide circulation to our literature, and encourage and facilitate the pastors in their work. As this arrangement is designed to be only occasional and temporary, your Committee suggest that a place of sale be designated in every principal town throughout the land, where [271] the publications of the Committee can be obtained after the retiring colporteur shall have sown the seed, awakened an interest, and done his work.

Your Committee beg leave to call special attention to the Hymn and Tune Book, as in their judgment well adapted to the devotional exercises of the lecture-room, prayer-meeting, and even to congregational singing on the Sabbath. The book everywhere will be found a grand aid to worship.

The *Presbyterian Monthly* is hailed as a benediction wherever it is taken, and the only regret is that it should not be taken by every Presbyterian within our bounds. The information it contains is needed by every pastor and session, while every family would be greatly enriched by its monthly advent.

A large circulation, which, by a little effort on the part of pastors and elders, might be realized, would make it self-supporting at the low price of fifty cents a year. Your Committee would recommend that a copy be sent to every pastor, "*sine sumptu*," in the hope that his church will take a collection during the year for each of the objects represented in the *Monthly*.

While your Committee have suggested measures by which the remunerative circulation or sale of the Committee's publications may be vastly increased, they are not unmindful of the purely benevolent character of the work.

Thousands of pages must be gratuitously circulated, in the hope, not of pecuniary but of moral returns, in the actual good done, and a full reward on the great pay-day of the world, when every man shall receive according to his works. With this view, collections are recommended in all our churches.

There is one more item to which your Committee would call the attention of the Assembly—the wants of the rapidly-increasing German immigration.

The numbers landed monthly upon our shores are immense! These are the most inquiring, the most given to reading, of all the people that come to us from abroad. Though many of them are sceptical in their religious tendencies, yet the Protestant portion, in their ecclesiastical affinities, are with us. True, on their arrival, they are ignorant of us, and scepticism would misrepresent us and mislead them; but properly instructed by means of our Presbyterial publications, they affiliate most naturally with us in doctrine and polity, and become an element of strength. They may be easily turned to infidelity, or to a Protestant and vital Christianity, according to the nature of the influences first brought to bear upon them. It is the opinion of your Committee that no more hopeful field is now open for the circulation of our religious literature.

In conclusion and in review, the Committee would respectfully propose the following resolutions:

1. That we gratefully acknowledge the favor of God to this cause during the past and previous years.

2. That the Synods or Presbyteries be recommended to ap[272]point students, unemployed ministers, or earnest Christian laymen as colporteurs, to circulate the books of the Publication Committee, and to co-operate with pastors in every good word and work.

3. That a place of sale be designated in every important town, where it shall be known that the Committee's publications may be obtained at the lowest retail price.

4. That the "Social Hymn and Tune Book," recently published by the Committee, be commended as pre-eminently adapted to social and congregational worship.

5. That more vigorous efforts be put forth to introduce the *Presbyterian Monthly* into all our congregations.

6. That it be recommended that annual collections be taken to aid in the gratuitous circulation of the Committee's publications.

7. That a Special Committee of five be appointed, who shall prepare fresh tracts and books, or, if thought desirable, translations, to be published in the German language, in co-operation with the Assembly's Publishing Committee, and who shall take into consideration the expediency of publishing a German religious newspaper, adapted to the wants of the German population of the country.

The following persons are nominated for that *Committee:* Daniel W. Poor, D. D., George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Johann U. Guenther, Rev. J. J. F. Brunow, and Rev. Nelson Millard.

The Committee recommend that Daniel March, D. D., J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., Mr. William F. Judson, Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and the Hon. William Strong, whose terms of service now expire, be re-elected for the ensuing three years.

The Committee would also recommend that Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. M. W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Ezra E. Adams, D. D., whose terms of service now expire, be re-elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House for the ensuing two years.

The Rev. Phineas D. Gurley, D. D., and the Hon. Lincoln Clark, the Delegates from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The Delegation presented the following communication on behalf of that Assembly.

Resolved, That this Assembly expresses its fraternal affection for the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, and its earnest desire for Reunion at the earliest time consistent with agreement in doctrine, order, and policy, on the basis of our common standards, and the prevalence of mutual confidence and love, which are so necessary to a happy union, and to the permanent peace and prosperity of the united Church.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our churches, and [273] church courts, and to all our ministers, ruling elders, and communicants, to cherish fraternal feeling, to cultivate Christian intercourse in the worship of God, in the promotion of the cause of Christ, and to avoid all needless controversies and competitions adapted to perpetuate division and strife.

Resolved, That a Committee of nine ministers and six ruling elders be appointed, provided that a similar Committee shall be appointed by the other Assembly now in session in this city, for the purpose of conferring in regard to the desirableness and practicability of Reunion; and if, after conference and inquiry, such Reunion shall seem to be desirable and practicable, to suggest suitable measures for its accomplishment, and report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on several Overtures relating to Reunion with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church. The report was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Polity of the Church report Overtures, numbered 5 to 16, on the subject of the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, from the Presbyteries of New York, 3d, and New York, 4th, Newark, Dubuque, Greencastle, Alton, Steuben, Athens, Monroe, Keokuk, Long Island, Trumbull, and San José. All these Presbyteries, with different degrees of urgency, recommend to this Assembly to initiate, or to respond to, proposals looking to an entire Reunion of the churches represented by the two General Assemblies now in session in the city of St. Louis.

The General Assembly now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city has also adopted resolutions, appointing a Committee to confer with a similar Committee of our own Church in regard to the desirableness and practicability of such Reunion.

Your Committee recommend to this Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Assembly tender to the Assembly, representing the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, its cordial Christian salutations and fellowship, and the expression of its earnest wish for Reunion, on the basis of our common standards, received in a common spirit.

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen, nine of whom shall be ministers of the Gospel, and six ruling elders, be appointed to confer on this subject, in the recess of the Assemblies, with the Committee to be appointed by the other General Assembly, and to report the results to the next General Assembly.

Resolved, That we enjoin upon this Committee, and upon all our ministers and church members, to abstain from whatever may hinder a true Christian fellowship, and to cherish and cultivate [274] those feelings and purposes, which look to the peace and prosperity of Zion, the edifying of the body of Christ, and the complete union of all believers, especially of those who live in the same land, and have the same history and the same standards of doctrine and polity.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with the names of our Committee, be sent to the other General Assembly now in session in this city.

The Rev. William E. Knox, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, the Hon. John A. Foot, and the Hon. Henry W. Williams, were appointed to nominate the Committee of Conference, under the foregoing resolutions.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. David Herron, the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The following declaration in relation to intemperance was adopted:

In view of the general prevalence and great increase of intemperance in this country, this General Assembly bears the following testimony:

1. That we rejoice in the renewed diligence shown by the church in arresting the progress of this great evil.

2. That total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, as a beverage, is demanded from every Christian by the condition of society, the purity of the Church, and the Word of God.

3. We recommend that on the last Sabbath in June next ministers in our connection preach on the subject of intemperance.

4. The General Assembly having heard the statements made touching the National Temperance Society, lately organized in the city of New York, and believing its spirit and policy to be in harmony with our utterances for upward of fifty years past, therefore,

Resolved, That we regard the new National Temperance Society with favor, as well adapted in the form, vigor, and scope of its organization, to grapple with the great national sin of intemperance, and as such commend it to the faithful prayers, liberal support, and earnest co-operation of our churches. [275]

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, which was accepted, with thanks to the Committee, and adopted, as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That they have received, for the Commissioners' Fund.........	$6203.34
" " " " " " Contingent Fund............	430.34
	$6633.68

The amount received has been disposed of as follows:

Paid Contingent expenses	$1600.00	
Paid Commissioners 73 per cent. of expenses.........	5033.68	
		6633.68

The bills of necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners make an aggregate of.....................................	$6879.33
Leaving a deficit of....................................	1845.65
Equal to 27 per cent.	

Fourteen Presbyteries have failed to pay to the Commissioners' Fund, four of whom are from California.

Twelve have paid a part only of their assessment.

The deficit would be less except for the increased expenses of the Assembly in meeting at so remote a point. The liberal concession of railroads in abating fare, and the increased assessment to six cents per member has enabled the Assembly to pay twelve per cent. more of traveling expenses than was paid last year.

It is earnestly recommended that all the Presbyteries pay in their full assessment to this fund rather than withhold it for distribution among their own members.

A just and liberal distribution could then be made to all.

They recommend that the assessment of six cents per member be continued for the next year.

The report of the Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools respectfully submit the following report:

This Committee is now constituted for the first time in the history of our Church, in consequence of Overtures from Presbyteries, in accordance with the desire of many members of the churches and with the action of the General Assembly of 1864.

The Committee do not hesitate to assume, that the Assembly appreciates the value and discerns the scope of the Sabbath-school as the auxiliary of the pulpit in the salvation of souls, as oftentimes its forerunner in the founding of churches, and at all times its best substitute when the strength of Christ's collected followers may not be sufficient to sustain the stated preaching of the Word. [276]

We believe that the Sabbath-school is a nursery of the Christian Church, one bulwark of Christian doctrine, a promoter of Christian union, and the organizer of Christian labor. In other words, it saves the young, it secures the faith, it settles differences, and it develops power.

The first proposition is made manifest by the fact that of 5086 members belonging to 311 churches, (which have the last year reported to the Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Eldership,) 2387 were added from the Sabbath-school.

The second proposition is evidenced by comparison of the lapsed convictions of churches without Sabbath-schools with the sound faith of those which sustain them. Sabbath-school work is the healthy outgrowth of a grounded faith. The branches, leaves, and fruit return vitality to the root.

The third proposition is seen in the happy union existing between the members of different and of the same denominations who join in Sabbath-school enterprises. Diversities are ignored; agreements multiply. They sing the same Zion-songs; they meet at the same mercy-seat; they speak from the same platform; they fraternize at the Union Convention; there is one book, the Bible; one Lord, who said, "Suffer the children;" one Saviour, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

The fourth proposition is demonstrated from individual experience as well as church experience. The young Christian who lays hold of mission-school work grows in knowledge and grace with no stinted increase, sometimes the sad sequel of a vigorous germination. The older Christian, becoming a Sabbath-school teacher, exchanges spiritual sluggishness for an inspiriting vitality. The Church, with a good Sabbath-school, even though in the present small, is master of the situation.

In view of these considerations, the Assembly has ordered the appointment of a Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools. It is recommended that their duties (subject to future modification or enlargement,) shall be:

1. To supervise the Sabbath-school literature of the Church in co-operation with the Permanent Committee on Publication. Their recommendation will promote the circulation of the many good books; their disapproval will

eliminate the few not good books; their suggestions will open new classes of subjects upon which books may be written; and even their silence will discourage the use of weak and wordy trash.

2. To issue circulars which may help the cause, and use other appropriate methods of the press.

3. To collect data, and from facts to work out practical theses, which may assist pastors. superintendents, and teachers in the Sabbath-school work.

4. To promote the establishment of Sabbath-schools in localities needing them within the bounds of the Assembly, among the freedmen of the South, and the Germans of the West, in co-operation with the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions. [277]

5. To promote the Sabbath-school cause in heathen lands in co-operation with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

6. To promote the establishment of Sabbath-schools in Mexico, Central America, France, Italy, and Germany, in co-operation with the American and Foreign Christian Union.

7. To promote the increase of the ministry through influence brought to bear upon the Sabbath-schools, and thus prove an auxiliary of the Education Committee.

Your Committee pass over to the Permanent Committee the consideration of two propositions suggested by members of the Assembly. 1st. The devising of a plan to be presented to the next General Assembly, by which the students of our Theological Seminaries may receive special instruction in the relations of the pastor to the Sabbath-school, in the best modes of conducting Sabbath-schools, and in the approved methods of Sabbath-school work. 2d. The devising of a plan, to be presented to the next General Assembly, for the establishment of normal schools for the instruction of Sabbath-school teachers.

Your Committee further recommend, that the Presbyteries be instructed by the General Assembly, to appoint a presbyterial Committee on Sabbath-schools, whose duty it shall be to attend to the interests of the Sabbath-school cause within the bounds of the Presbytery, and that such Committee report itself for instructions to the Permanent Committee.

It is also recommended that the Publication Committee be authorized to send the publications of our Church to the Sabbath-school Committee in response to their directions.

Your Committee, in the selection of names for the Permanent Committee, have been controlled by two considerations. 1st. That a majority of the Committee should be within easy call from a favorable centre. 2d. That the members of the Committee shall not be pre-occupied on other Permanent Committees.

The following nomination is submitted: James B. Shaw, D. D., Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Charles Hawley, D. D., William E. Knox, D. D., Samuel M. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Charles P. Bush, Rev. William A. Niles, Rev. Marvin R. Vincent, Rev. Charles E. Knox, Ralph Wells, Edwin T. Huntington, George W. Parsons, Josiah P. Bailey, Truman P. Handy, and Samuel Field.

In conclusion, it is recommended that the Permanent Committee hold its first meeting at Rochester, New York. at the call of the Stated Clerk of the Assembly; that it be guided in its action by the practice and rules of the other Permanent Committees; and that its expenses for the first year be met by individual subscriptions from residents of Western and Central New York.

Resolved, That not less a sum than one hundred and twenty thousand dollars is necessary to carry on the work of Home Missions for the ensuing year, and that this General Assembly here[278]by pledge our churches to all diligence and faithfulness in raising at least this amount.

Whereas, This Assembly, in its deliverance on the State of the Country, has affirmed the truth, that "our most solemn national trust concerns that patient race so long held in unrighteous bondage;" and,

Whereas, The education of the Freedmen is essential to their endowment with all the rights and privileges of American citizens, and is promotive of a safe and permanent reconstruction; therefore

Resolved, That the churches be recommended to take up collections in behalf of the Freedmen supplementary to the regular collections for Home Missions; said collections to be forwarded to such association in behalf of the Freedmen as, by the wisdom and integrity of its management, shall best commend itself to the confidence of our congregations.

The Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Chairman, the Rev. William Adams, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., the Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., the Rev. Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., with the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., the Hon. Henry W. Williams, and Messrs. Truman P. Handy, Robert W. Steele, and William H. Brown, were appointed the Committee of Conference on Reunion, with a similar Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city.

Resolved, That this Assembly recommend that the Westminster Assembly's Catechism be introduced as a text-book into all the Sabbath-schools under our supervision and control, where it is not now used.

Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and the Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to serve for three years.

The Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., the Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. William A. Booth, were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years.

The Committee to prepare a suitable response to the communication from the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland presented several resolutions, and a reply, which were adopted, and are as follows:

The General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, in a letter bearing date May thirtieth, 1865, having proposed to us a closer fellowship by "the occasional visits of accredited deputies" from our respective Churches; and the same proposal having been [279] confirmed in the address of the Rev. James McCosh, LL.D., therefore

Resolved, That this Assembly cordially accede to this proposal for an interchange of Deputies, on such specific terms as may hereafter be designated; and that two Deputies be appointed to represent our Church at the next General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, in Edinburgh, May, 1867.

Resolved, That the Committee having in charge the correspondence with the Free Church of Scotland be authorized to make these appointments in the name of this General Assembly.

Resolved, That we tender to the Rev. James McCosh, LL.D., our sincere thanks for the able and eloquent manner in which he has discharged his office as the virtual, if not technical, representative of the Free Church of Scotland; that we offer him the assurance of our personal honor and regard;

and that we pray for his continued and increasing success and influence in the great and useful labors to which his life is devoted.

Resolved, That copies of this minute be sent to the Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, and to the Rev. Dr. McCosh.

The Committee appointed to answer the letter addressed to our Church by the Free Church of Scotland propose to the Assembly the following draft of a reply.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, (N. S.,) in session at the First Presbyterian church in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, May twenty-eighth, 1865, to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, greeting.

Dear Brethren: The most welcome letter of your venerable Assembly, bearing date, Edinburgh, May thirtieth, 1865, and subscribed by your Moderator, the Rev. James Begg, D. D., has been received by our Assembly with heartfelt gratitude and approval. We warmly reciprocate your affectionate Christian salutations, and respond with lively emotions to your expressions of sympathy and confidence, and to your proposals for a closer fellowship. Though separated by the broad ocean, we are bound together by no ordinary ties. No Church of another land has a stronger hold than yours upon our love and honor. The one Reformed faith is our common heritage. We express that faith in the same symbols; we have in essence the same Presbyterian polity; and we are equally engaged in kindred evangelical labors at home and abroad. There are also between us many ties of a common ancestry. And we venerate the names of your early Reformers; our ministry are still instructed by the writings of your great divines, our faith is strengthened by the bright example of your heroic martyrs, who fought a good fight for religious and civil liberty; and in your especial conflicts and sacrifices for a Free Church you have had, these twenty years, our constant and warmest sympathy. We honor the high wisdom and extraordinary [280] liberality which have made you prosperous and strong, and the new testimony you have given to the self-sustaining power of the Christian Church, when contending for its righteous liberties. It is a good thing that the sacred fire kindled by the old covenanters is still burning in the heart of Scotland, and that their flaming torches have been handed down from sire to son. In all these things, dear brethren, we do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

It is, then, with no ordinary satisfaction that we have received your proposal for an interchange of "accredited Deputies" between our Churches, as occasion may serve. As you will see by an accompanying minute, this Assembly has unanimously resolved to appoint two such Deputies to represent us before your venerable body, in May, 1867. They will in due time be named and commissioned, and we bespeak for them a fraternal welcome. We also invite you to send Deputies to the General Assembly of our own Church at its next sessions in the city of Rochester, in the State of New York, May, 1867, assuring them a most cordial reception.

We have this year been favored with an address, made in your behalf, by the Rev. James McCosh, LL.D., of Belfast, Ireland, who came to us with ample testimonials from several of the honored ministers of your Church. Already known to us by his elaborate and thoughtful works, so important in relation to the great conflict between Christianity and some forms of modern infidelity, he hardly needed any external recommendation to insure him an attentive hearing. His eloquent and sympathetic words have drawn us to you by the cords of a common faith and love.

The sympathy you express in the calamities and sufferings brought upon us by our recent war, in the assassination of our beloved and venerated

President Lincoln—a martyr to the cause of human freedom—and your fervent congratulations upon the abolition of Slavery throughout our States, as well as your wise suggestions, derived in part from your British experience, in respect to the future condition of the negro race, call for our grateful recognition. These things have weighed, and still weigh, upon the mind and conscience of this nation. God has guided us by his wonder-working providence, bringing good out of evil. He has sorely chastised us for our national sins, and we bow in penitence, yet in trust, beneath his mighty hand. He has indeed caused the wrath of man to promote His own high purposes of grace and wisdom. And in the difficulties and perplexities that still beset our path, in the vast social and political, as well as religious, problems that we are called upon to solve, we humbly invoke and rely upon His wisdom and grace. Here too we feel assured that your prayers will mingle with ours.

You say that "the divergence of sentiment and action formerly existing between us," on the question of Slavery, "has now ceased;" and "as there is really nothing now to prevent a complete and cordial understanding between the British and the American Churches, we take the earliest possible opportunity of [281] giving utterance to this conviction and desire of our hearts." We thank you for these words; we unite with you in the petition for the removal of all estrangements, and the establishment not only of our old, but even of a better and nearer, fellowship. And because of this our common wish and purpose, we are emboldened to say to you, with the utmost Christian frankness as well as affection, that during the progress of our recent and terrible struggle for the very life of our nation, involving as it did by a vital necessity the emancipation of the slaves, we have at times been deeply pained and grieved, by the apparent indifference of the British Churches to the great principles and the manifest moral issues that were here at stake. From the beginning of the great rebellion, our American Churches, as with one voice, proclaimed the real nature of the contest. Our own Assembly never faltered or wavered in the declarations, that it was essentially a conflict between freedom and slavery, and that national unity was necessary to national freedom. And we shall evermore regret that, in our darkest days, when we were in travail in the throes of a new birth, and when sympathy would most have cheered our hearts, we had, with few exceptions, such slight encouragement from those so nearly allied to us in faith, and in the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty. But these dark hours are past, nevermore we trust to return; and we are glad that the clouds are dispersing, and the mists vanishing away, and that we are coming to see eye to eye, and to know better each other's heart and mind.

You allude to the interest with which you "shall watch the future history of the negro race within our borders." The views of this Assembly on some of the points herein involved are set forth in a Declaration just adopted on the State of the Country, a copy of which will be sent to you. The freedom of that unhappy and long-suffering race has been bought at a great price of blood and treasure. Slavery is now prohibited by an amendment to the Constitution. The civil rights of the freedmen have been secured by law. Other guarantees will doubtless follow in due time. This nation is under the most solemn responsibility as to the future destiny of this class of its citizens. Meanwhile, our chief reliance must be on those social, moral, and religious influences which alone can make men fit for freedom and truly free; and which alone can fully restore the union of these States, and bind us together in a common brotherhood.

In these troubled times, even when the horrors of war were upon us, the

Great Head of the Church has given us fresh occasion to magnify His faithfulness. Our American Churches, no less than our Republic, have emerged from this conflict still strong in their faith and order. The principles of our American Christianity have received a new vindication. Our benevolent contributions have been constantly increasing. And we are now girding ourselves for the great task that is laid upon us, especially in our Southern and Western States, among our freedmen and [282] our emigrant population, and against the progress of Romanism, of materialism, and of a false rationalism, in humble reliance, as we trust, upon the grace and wisdom of Him, who will not leave us if we lean upon His mighty arm, and follow the guidance of His all-wise providence. An increased desire for Christian union too has been kindled throughout our land. Many of our churches also have been visited with fresh outpourings of the Spirit of grace, showing that the Lord is at work amongst us as of old.

We, too, desire with you, in a special manner, a closer fellowship between the Presbyterian Churches in our own and other lands. We are glad to see the movements in this direction in England and Scotland, and in your colonial dependencies. The same spirit is at work among ourselves. The two great branches of the Presbyterian Church in this country are drawing nearer together; this year they have touched each other; and each of our Assemblies has appointed a Committee of Conference on Reunion. Our Deputies will inform you of the progress of this desirable object. And we fervently hope that here, as never before, all Christian Churches may forget their lesser differences, and unite together, as far as possible, in the great work of the Lord.

Dear brethren, beloved in the Lord, we send to you these our Christian salutations, beseeching you to pray for us. We commend you unto God, and to the word of His grace. May the one Great Head of the Church bless you with all spiritual blessings! May our Churches and our lands live in amity and unity! May we all live for the glory of God in the kingdom of His Son our Lord, to whom be praise evermore. Amen.

The report of the Special Committee on Overture No. 14 of the last Assembly was taken from the docket. Pending its consideration, the Assembly

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Overture No. 14 of the last Assembly was resumed. The report was adopted, and is as follows: [283]

The undersigned, a Special Committee, to whom was referred Overture No. 14, to the General Assembly of 1865, together with the report of a former Committee thereon, and who were instructed to report to the present Assembly, respectfully submit the following:

The Overture is in these words: "When the judicatory have proceeded, in accordance with Chapter IV., section 13, of the Book of Discipline, to take the testimony in the case of an accused person, may they proceed to pass judgment thereon, as if he were present, or shall he be left simply under censure for contumacy?"

The question thus presented is exclusively one of power. It is not whether, in all cases, it is advisable that a church judicatory should proceed to a final determination of the case; nor is it what has been the usage in some of the tribunals of the Church; but it is strictly, What does the Book of Discipline authorize? It is freely admitted, that a long course of usage under a statute is no inconsiderable evidence of the meaning of that statute; but it must be a usage growing out of the enactment itself, and claimed to have been authorized by it. Mere neglect to exercise powers conferred is no proof that they were not granted. Had the fathers of the Church generally decided that, by the fourth chapter of the Book of Discipline, no power is recognized in a judicatory to proceed to the trial of an accused person when he has refused to obey its citations, that his contumacious refusal must arrest all steps to purify the Church of the offence charged, beyond taking evidence to prove that offence, and had such a construction of the Book been generally accepted, it ought to have weight in answer to this Overture. But there is no evidence that any such judicial construction has been generally given to the language of the Book. Undoubtedly there have been differences of opinion, and, possibly, it may have been decided in some judicatory, that jurisdiction over an offence charged is necessarily suspended, whenever an accused person disobeys the citations; but this is of little value in determining what the framers of the Book of Discipline meant by its directions respecting process, trial, and judgment. It is much more important that, in certain cases, where the proof is clear, as where the accused has confessed his guilt, or where he has been convicted of violating the civil law and has absconded, church sessions have been accustomed to proceed to trial and judgment, notwithstanding a refusal of the accused to appear in answer to citations. Such cases are judicial assertions of power, never denied, so far as we are informed.

But there is not enough in judicial decision nor in authoritative usage to settle the question. After all, it must be answered from the Book; and the true inquiry is, what is the fair interpretation of the rules laid down in the fourth chapter. A universally recognized rule of construction is, that, when the purpose of a statute is clear, the means given for effectuating it are to be in[284]terpreted with reference to the purpose, and, if possible, so as to secure its accomplishment. Now the ends of discipline are clearly defined. They are declared, by the second section of the first chapter, to be "the removal of offences, the vindication of the honor of Christ, the promotion of the purity and general edification of the Church, and also the benefit of the offender himself." The fourth chapter contains the directions given to church judicatories, by which these ends are to be secured. Manifestly, they were intended to be a complete and efficient system adequate to the purposes in view. If they fail of that, the avowed object of their framers is defeated. Then there is no power to remove an offence in any case where the alleged offender refuses to submit himself to trial. Plainly, it is the offence charged which is sought to be removed, either by bringing the offender to repentance, or by the judgment of the Church upon it, and ultimately, if necessary, removing the offender. It is from that offence the Church is to be purified, and the honor of Christ vindicated, for by that offence the evil has been done. Anything, that comes short of discipline for that, fails of accomplishing the avowed purposes, for which the directions of the fourth chapter were prescribed. Contumacious disobedience of citations is another distinct offence, punishment for which is entirely collateral to discipline for the cause that induced the commencement of the process. It is contempt of the lawful authority of the Church, and suspension for it is summary punishment for the collateral offence alone. Neither directly nor indirectly is it an expression of opinion, respecting the delinquent's guilt or innocence of the charge preferred originally against him. Suspension for contumacy would be proper, without regard to anything beyond it. It is quite conceivable that an accused person may wilfully disobey citations, and yet be innocent of the charges made against him. It certainly would be an anomaly in any judicial proceeding to hold, that a penalty inflicted for a collateral offence vindicates the law against another and possibly much greater crime.

If, therefore, the defined ends of discipline are to be secured, a church session must have power to proceed to trial and judgment, though the accused person refuse to obey the citations duly served upon him; and it is not to be concluded without clear evidence, that means given to secure those ends are inadequate. When the meaning of the language used in the fourth chapter is sought, the best guide to it will be found in the paramount intention the language was designed to subserve. The directions given must be construed consistently with that intention; to further rather than to defeat it. Looking then to the sections of the fourth chapter, and regarding them as part of a system designed for the purposes above mentioned, to be interpreted so as to harmonize with those purposes as well as with each other, the conclusion seems inevitable that. whenever an accusation has been made against a church member, and a church judicatory has entered judicially upon its consideration, and obtained jurisdiction [285] by service of citations upon him, it may go on to final judgment, though he refuses to obey the citations. It is observable that the entire fourth chapter is but an outline of process. It does not undertake to prescribe minutely each step that may be taken. It does not even expressly authorize a judicatory to proceed to trial in any case. It rather assumes that, having taken judicial cognizance of the proceeding, the tribunal will go to trial and judgment. Like a writ of summons in a civil court, the citation is notice that the judicatory has assumed jurisdiction of the case, and that it will proceed to its final determination. When that notice has been given, as prescribed, it is contemplated rather than expressly required, that witnesses will be examined; that a trial will be proceeded with, and that a judgment will be given. All these things are implied from what is directed respecting them. They are not affirmatively enjoined, or even permitted. Thus it is said, "witnesses shall be examined in the presence of the accused, or at least after he shall have received a citation to attend," and that he shall be permitted to ask any questions tending to his exculpation. This is a regulation of the mode of examination, not a direct gift of power to take testimony, yet the implication of power is irresistible. The fourteenth section prescribes certain things before proceeding to trial; and the fifteenth declares that the trial shall be fair and impartial; but nowhere is it said there shall be a trial. The sixteenth section requires the judgment to be regularly entered on the record; but no section in words authorizes a judgment. Everywhere it is assumed that these successive steps in a judicial proceeding may be taken. It would be a rash conclusion from the absence of a specific grant of these powers to deny any right to take testimony, to try, and to give judgment. The powers are not only to be implied, but they are comprehensively given by the general provision of the first section, that "the judicatory shall judicially take the offence into consideration, when all other means of removing it have failed;" and they are included also in the directions to issue citations. Nor is there any substantial distinction made, between cases in which the accused yields obedience to the citations and those in which he is contumaciously disobedient. The thirteenth section is the only one that is supposed to make a difference. By that a second citation is required, to be accompanied with a notice, that, if the person cited do not appear at the time appointed, the judicatory, "besides censuring him for his contumacy, will, after assigning some person to manage his defence, proceed to take the testimony in his case, as if he were present." It has sometimes been asked, if it was intended that the judicatory might proceed in such a case to final judgment, Why was not notice required that they would thus proceed? Why limit the notice to taking testimony? These questions are easily answered. A notice that the judicatory will proceed to trial and decision would be unnecessary and superfluous. It has already been given in the assumption of jurisdiction over the [286] case and in the citations; but notice of taking testimony is a different matter. Separate notice of that is generally given in all judicial proceedings. Its design is to give a party an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses produced against him. And, as the judgment in all ecclesiastical courts must be founded upon evidence, as a judgment for default of appearance is not authorized, it is proper that the accused should have special notice of taking the testimony, though he may refuse to appear in answer to the citation. In fact, however, notice that the testimony will be taken is notice that the judicatory will go on with the trial; for taking testimony is a part of trial, its first stage. Undue inferences are therefore drawn from the form of the notice, if it is supposed to indicate that the proceedings are to stay, when the testimony shall have been taken. At most, it raises but a very feeble implication that, because notice of one thing is required, (a thing very peculiar in itself, and always demanding a special notice.) therefore nothing else can be done. A similar mode of reasoning would render a trial in any case impossible.

Moreover, the thirteenth section affords strong affirmative evidence, that a trial and judgment were contemplated by its framers, notwithstanding the refusal of the accused to obey the citations. The evidence is found in the notice that the judicatory will assign some person, not to appear for the accused at the examination of witnesses, but to "manage his defence." The idea of defence in a judicial proceeding is inseparable from answer or trial. If, therefore, the non-appearing accused has a defence to be managed, he has an answer to be put in, a trial to undergo. Taking testimony in support of the accusation is no part of the defence. Cross-examination of the witnesses may be a part, but the appointee of the judicatory is to manage the whole.

It may also be argued that the provision for taking testimony at all, when an accused person fails to respond to the citation, implies that the case may proceed to a final determination. For what purpose take testimony, if no action is to be based upon it? If it be said, to preserve it for use when the accused, repenting of his contumacy, may choose to appear for trial, it may be answered, that no such purpose appears in the Book. None of the provisions usual, when the object sought to be accomplished is the perpetuation of testimony, are even hinted at. By the sixteenth section, the judgment is required to be entered upon the records of the judicatory, but nothing is said of the preservation of unused evidence. It is not even required to be reduced to writing, unless demanded by one of the parties.

It may also be argued from the language of the fourteenth section, that a trial for the offence charged is intended, though the citations have been disobeyed. In that section, it is said, that judicatories, "before proceeding to trial," "ought to ascertain that their citations have been duly served on the persons for whom they were intended." If a person cited is in attendance, nothing is to be ascertained respecting the service of the citation. It is [287] plain, therefore, that this injunction refers mainly, at least, to proceeding to trial of an absent accused, and it assumes that the judicatory will, after having assured itself of the service of the citations, go on to adjudicate the case. The section is susceptible of no other meaning.

A similar implication is found in the next section, the fifteenth, which declares that "the trial shall be fair and impartial," and that "the witnesses shall be examined in the presence of the accused, or, at least, after he shall have received due citation to attend." This is a regulation of the mode of trial, and it is expressly made applicable both to cases where the accused yields obedience to the citation, and to cases where he does not. With these harmonize the sixteenth section, which assumes that there will be a judgment; and the seventeenth, nineteenth, and twentieth sections, prescribing the discipline to be administered in the event of conviction. The last of these directs excommunication in certain cases. Its fair interpretation evidently is, that the ground of such extreme action is not contumacy in disobeying process, but the gross offence charged, to answer for which the accused had been cited.

Taking all these sections into consideration, and regarding them as parts of one system, as having reference to the same subject-matter, and designed to secure the ends avowed, the Committee are constrained to regard them as applicable to the course of proceeding through all the stages of trial, alike in cases where the accused does not appear in obedience to the citations, as when he does. In both, the judicatory is empowered to proceed to trial and to final judgment.

To this conclusion an objection has sometimes been urged, that, at first mention, seems to have some plausibility. It is, that trial of a person in his absence, and the rendition of judgment against him, are in conflict with common right and justice; that even criminal courts in State governments do not try offenders in their absence, and that ecclesiastical courts ought to avoid *ex parte* proceedings. The objection aims less at the power of a judicatory, as recognized by the Book of Discipline, than it does at the policy of exercising it. But it misapprehends what are acknowledged common right and justice, what are the proceedings of courts of law and equity in analogous cases, and what are *ex parte* proceedings. Nowhere is it held, that a man may not deny himself his plainest rights. While he may not be tried for an alleged offence without having an opportunity to be heard, he has no just cause to complain of a trial to which he has been summoned by a tribunal having jurisdiction, and which he has persistently refused to attend. In such a case, it is he who throws away his own rights. They are not taken from him. This is a principle universally recognized in courts of civil law and of equity, and such courts go further. They construe a refusal to obey process requiring an appearance, as a substantial confession of the complaint, and they render judgment accordingly. It is [288] true, State courts, having criminal jurisdiction, do not try persons for crimes and misdemeanors in their absence. This is for two reasons. They have power to compel attendance, which ecclesiastical courts have not; and the punishments they inflict affect the life, the liberty, or the property of the convicted criminal. In fact, they concern the life or the liberty of the accused; for even if the penalty be only a fine, its payment is usually enforced by detention in custody until satisfaction be made. But ecclesiastical tribunals can pronounce no judgment that touches either the life, the liberty, or the property of the accused. Their sentences are peculiar. Indeed, it is asserting a false analogy to assimilate a trial before a church session to an indictment and trial in a criminal court. It bears a much stronger resemblance to proceedings very common in courts of law, in which members of associations or corporations are called upon to respond for some alleged breach of corporate duty, for which they are liable to be punished by the imposition of penalties or by a motion from membership. In such cases, when the person summoned refuses to obey the mandate of the writ, courts proceed at once to dispose of his case and render final judgment. No one ever supposed that by so doing injustice was done; or that any right of the accused was invaded. Much less can he complain, who has been cited to answer an accusation taken into judicial cognizance by a church judicatory, and who has contumaciously refused to obey the citation, if the tribunal proceed to try the case, presuming nothing against him but contumacy from his refusal, but founding its judgment solely upon the testimony of witnesses. This objection, therefore, when examined, appears to be without substance.

In conclusion, it remains only to recommend, as the opinion of the Committee, that the Overture be answered by a declaration of the Assembly, that in the case proposed, the judicatory may proceed to trial and final judgment, as if the accused were present.

The Committee of Conference on Reunion with the General Assembly, now in session at the Second Presbyterian church of this city, were authorized to fill any vacancies that may occur in their number.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Whereas, Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, of Philadelphia, has for some time been engaged in collecting information regarding the history of Presbyterian churches, to be published in his *Presbyterian Historical Almanac;* therefore,

Resolved, That the ministers and elders of the churches under the care of this General Assembly be earnestly requested to co-operate with Mr. Wilson in his valuable labors in behalf of the Church.

A communication was read from the Rev. Elbert S. Porter, [289] D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America.

A report was received from the Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., one of the Delegates to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that met, in 1865, at Pittsburgh, Pa., which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Standing Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, that met this year at the Second Presbyterian church of St. Louis, Mo.*—Rev. Edward D. Morris, D. D., of the Presbytery of Franklin, and Edward D. Mansfield, LL.D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principals; and Rev. E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., of the Presbytery of Scioto, and Franklin V. Chamberlain, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternates.

2. *The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Henry Little, of the Presbytery of Madison, principal; and Rev. Joseph Chester, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

3. *The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage, principal; and Rev. Richard Craighead, of the Presbytery of Meadville, alternate.

4. *The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America*—Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, principal; and Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

5. *The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. Elias J. Richards, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, principal; and Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.

6. *The General Convention of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. Stephen Bush, of the Presbytery of Albany, principal; and Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, alternate.

7. *The General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Jonathan H. Noble, of the Presbytery of Troy, principal; and Rev. Edwin A. Bulkley, of the Presbytery of Champlain, alternate.

8. *The General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; and Rev. Abbott E. Kittredge, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

9. *The General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. Francis S. McCabe, of the Presbytery of Logansport, principal; and Rev. Henry M. Field, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

10. *The General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Conway P. [290] Wing, D. D., of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, principal; and Rev. T. Ralston Smith, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.

11. *The Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. George I. King, D. D., of the Presbytery of Schuyler, principal; and Rev. Edward A. Pierce, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate.

12. *The Union of Evangelical Churches of France*—Rev. Azariah Eldridge, D. D., of the Presbytery of Detroit.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes of this Assembly.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock this evening.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28th, 8 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

It was

Resolved, That this General Assembly take peculiar pleasure in here publicly recording their warmest gratitude for the large and generous provision made for their comfort and enjoyment by the people of St. Louis, in circumstances of great difficulty, owing to the unexpected presence of so many Delegates from other religious bodies as their guests. That we specially tender sincere thanks to the Committee of Arrangements, the honored pastor of the First Presbyterian church and his excellent people for their thoughtful regard and provident arrangements for all our sessions, and their kind and persistent efforts to make their homes our own during our stay: also to the president of the Iron Mountain Railroad Company, for the pleasant excursion to Pilot Knob, and his personal attentions on that occasion; to the Mercantile Library Association, to the president of the Public School Library Society, to the president of the City University, and to the directors of the Girls' Industrial School, for invitations to visit these respective institutions; to the superintendent of public schools, for copies of the last report; to the St. Louis Transfer Company, for the generous offer of their omnibuses; to the four boat companies who have furnished dinners, from day to day, to many of our members from a distance; to the several railroad companies who have granted the Commissioners a reduced fare over their roads; to the press of St. Louis, and especially the *Missouri Daily Democrat*, for faithful reports, and a full report of our proceedings in pamphlet; and also, to our beloved and excellent Moderator, for the promptness with which he has [291] so cheerfully, ably, and impartially presided over our deliberations; and, as we say farewell to the people with whom it has been our delightful privilege to mingle in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, *Resolved*, That it is in all our hearts to pray constantly that grace, mercy, and peace from our common Lord may ever remain with them.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Foreign Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without leave: Rev. Messrs. Joseph A. Ranney, Ebenezer Buckingham, George C. Noyes, George O. Little, and John W. Cunningham; and Messrs. Luther Edgerton, Lewis Martin, Joshua Moore, Manley Rogers, Edwin S. Wells, and Horatio Newhall, M. D.

The Minutes of the last session and of this session were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the Brick Presbyterian church of the city of Rochester, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1867.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER, *Permanent Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1866.

EIGHTY-NINE of the one hundred and nine Presbyteries on our Roll have forwarded their annual reports of the state of religion for examination. It would hardly be possible to find stronger proofs or happier illustrations of God's faithfulness to his covenant people, than are found in these reports.

The condition of our Church at the beginning of the year was eminently prosperous. It had gathered strength from the trials of the "perilous times" just passed; confidence from the final victory of those great principles of equity, in the advocacy of which it had taken a high and distinctive position among sister Churches; and encouragement from signal tokens of divine favor in every sphere of its activity. All the agencies of its organic life and growth were in complete order and active employment. Better than all, the spiritual life, by which its union with Christ is maintained, and from which it derives all its divine power, was pervading its members and prompting them to greater zeal and diligence in their Master's work. Revivals of religion had been remarkably prevalent. One hundred and thirteen churches were reported to have enjoyed them during the previous year. These proofs of God's favor for the churches had awakened an expectation of greater favor, and had stirred them with desire for larger measures of his gracious influence in aid of their efforts for the conversion of souls. The "Narratives" of that time show this very clearly. In one, these words occur: "Our churches are anxiously looking for those Pentecostal seasons which shall result in the conversion of the world." And again, in another: "Some are expecting a more copious outpouring of God's Spirit than has been enjoyed for the last thirty years."

These feelings were more fully reflected by the last General Assembly. It was called "the praying Assembly." Its example has been followed through all the year, by the churches whose faith found utterance in its prayers.

THE PRAYERFULNESS OF THE CHURCHES

is the first noticeable peculiarity of all their reports. The patriotism, which once prayed for victories of arms, has plead for those greater victories of divine mercy in turning the nation to righteousness, without which it must yet be lost. Love for Zion has plead for its enlargement, as no less to the glory of its King than to the national welfare. Parental love has prayed for the conversion of youth surrounded by the terrible perils of abounding wickedness. In short, all the public sympathies, personal interests, and religious affections of Christians have seemed alike to centre in supplication for a greater reviving than the churches of this country have ever experienced.

This so universal and earnest prayer has been answered in

A GREAT OUTPOURING OF GOD'S SPIRIT.

The number of Narratives which do not speak of this gracious visitation is very small. Two hundred and fourteen revivals are specially mentioned. The blessing is so generally shared by the churches in some Presbyteries, that all are massed together in the Narratives as "greatly revived," and no mention is made of any one in particular—a fault of the Narratives readily pardoned when there is such a cause for it. The few Presbyteries not visited by the Spirit are earnestly inquiring, "Why are we passed by?" a marked indication of the general prosperity with which their own condition is contrasted, and yet a promising omen of a better future.

The power and depth of the revivals have varied much, as in the history of revivals generally. The Presbytery of Cayuga says: "The work in Auburn has been more powerful than any previous work since 1833." Several other Presbyteries speak of the work as "more powerful than has been witnessed for many years." On the other hand, a larger number speak of having received "gentle dews" and "showers," instead of "copious rains." The extensiveness of the Spirit's influence, rather than the intensity of its manifestations, is noticeable in all the reports.

The subjects of the work have been mainly youth between twelve and twenty. The Presbytery of Bloomington says of the work in Bloomington: "Most of the young people have been converted." Many of the Presbyteries speak of their revivals as having "commenced in the Sabbath-school." Rarely, however, have they been confined to Sabbath-schools. The Presbytery of Chemung says of the revival in Elmira: "Hundreds of children, and youth, and full aged men and women were converted." The same statements, in substance, are made respecting the revivals in Brooklyn, Auburn, Cleveland, Springfield, Ill., Peoria, and numerous other places. In some places none but adults have been converted. Special mention is made in the Narratives of some of our Western colleges. Many young men have been converted in Knox and Western Reserve colleges, who will devote themselves to the ministry.

The chief agencies of the work have been "the ordinary means of grace."

The Narratives are quite definite on this point, of which this one may serve for an example: "These revivals have originated in the ordinary means of grace—earnest prayer and the preaching of the Gospel of Christ—and have been attended with no special excitement." One evangelist is mentioned in the Narratives—Rev. E. P. Hammond, of the Presbytery of New York, Third—whose labors are spoken of with gratitude as very abundant and fruitful. The special process of conversion peculiar to these revivals is well stated by the Presbytery of Chemung: "Salvation through Jesus Christ was proclaimed; men heard; the Holy Spirit moved them; they received the truth; they repented of their sins; and turned in simple faith to Christ."

A marked feature of all the revivals is, that they have been most fruitful in churches under the care of settled pastors.

The ingathering is yet going forward; therefore, it is impossible to state the number of conversions. The language of the Narratives as to this is uniform: "The results of this precious work cannot be measured by us." Indeed, but few Presbyteries state the number of additions to the churches. The "statistical reports" of six Presbyteries give an aggregate of ten hundred and forty-eight additions by profession. A number of churches have doubled their membership; several have received over two hundred, on profession of faith, since their revivals began.

Will the Work Continue?

The eye of faith can see many promising omens of its continuance. "The cloud of mercy" yet hangs above all our churches, and those which continue to ask its refreshing influences continue to receive them. In some places earnest Christians—veterans in Christ's service, in common with young converts—are attempting to reach the masses outside all the circles of sanctuary influence and Christian society; and this attempt to spread the Gospel leaven is attended with no little success. Such a combination of work with prayer is sure to secure the continuance of the revival.

Home Missions.

The organic life of our Church, though healthy and vigorous before this era of revivals, has manifestly received an unusual quickening from them. Not only is there great activity in the administrative and executive departments of our Home Missionary enterprise, but also a positive development of Gospel life and power, through that activity, which is appearing in the best fruits of practical evangelism. Three thousand five hundred conversions are reported by our Home Missionaries. Fifty churches have been organized, and many old churches which were nearly dead have been resuscitated. In Missouri there seems to be nothing wanting to multiply such fruits a thousandfold, but ministers to preach the Gospel, and sanctuaries within which to gather not only the converts made, but large numbers of Christian kindred, who are already waiting for our Church to provide them Sabbath-homes.

But with all the increasing growth of our Church through its own distinct agencies, there is still the kindliest feeling toward other denominations of like "precious faith." There is noticeable in the Narratives, moreover, a strong desire for a

Reunion with the Other Branch,

as soon as Providence may prepare the way for it. This desire is thus distinctly declared by one of the Eastern Presbyteries: "We now greatly and unanimously desire union with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church." The argument used by this Presbytery for reunion is, that it occupies the same field and bears the same name with an O. S. Presbytery, and that the two could work together much more effectively for Christ's kingdom than they are now doing in separate organizations.

The Power of the Church in Moral Reforms.

One of the best evidences of the genuineness of the revivals now in progress is the fact, that nearly every Presbytery which speaks of enjoying them mentions also a decrease of the common vices of society—of "intemperance" especially.

It is noteworthy that the few Presbyteries, which mourn the absence of God's Spirit and their own spiritual declension, speak the most discouragingly of the prevalence of these vices. One of the Eastern Presbyteries says: "It has not been a year of revivals. . . . Intemperance is doing its fearful work the length and breadth of our extended field. The pulpit, in general, does not appear to have spoken out upon the subject, and the people seem willing to have it so."

It is equally deserving of mention, on the other hand, that in some places, where the Spirit of God has been poured out the most abundantly, the work of revival began in an open and bold attack of all the most prominent vices of society. Not only was repentance preached, but the sins pointed out of which men must repent. The La Fayette avenue church of Brooklyn furnishes a notable instance of this kind. Its revival began with an "earnest temperance movement." Large and influential public meetings were held, and many took the pledge of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks.

Taking this as an example of the work of our revivals generally, it must be that much has been done by them for purifying society, and that more will be accomplished by them as that work advances.

Sabbath-schools

are mentioned in all the Narratives as in a very flourishing condition. The mission schools maintained in our cities and large towns are attracting much attention, as opening the most direct avenues for reaching the unconverted masses; and, also, as laying foundations for future churches in important localities.

Efforts for the Freedmen.

Our Presbyteries in East Tennessee are the only ones which are in direct contact with any considerable number of this large and important class. These Presbyteries report the organization of churches and of Sabbath-schools for their especial benefit, which are said to be in a good condition. Our churches have generally contributed for their relief and religious culture through the various "commissions" which are caring for them, and will continue to do so until some systematic beneficence of their own can be attempted.

The Benevolence of the Church

is shown, by the Narratives, to be somewhat on the increase. The aggregate of contributions to its own treasuries is larger than during any previous year. Yet the standard of giving is below the real ability of the Church, as a whole, and is still further below the demands of its great and constantly increasing work.

It is noticeable in the Statistical Reports, that some of the Presbyteries which are the least wealthy, rank the highest in liberality. One of this class, which has but two strong churches on its Roll, has given for Home Missions during the year an average of eighty-seven cents a member. If all our churches had given on the same scale, the Assembly's Home Mission Committee would have received $124,971.15, instead of the "less than $92,000" actually paid in, and would have been out of debt.

The amounts given for "Foreign Missions," and for Education for the Ministry, are equally below what ought to have been contributed. The true principle of contributing to the Church is that upon which we act in providing for our families, namely, to furnish supplies above actual wants, rather than below them.

OUTWARD PROSPERITY.

Frequent mention is made, in the Narratives, of "large and increasing congregations," of "the building of new sactuaries," of "high social position," of "the payment of church debts," of "increasing the salaries of pastors," and of many other like things, which indicate a high degree of outward prosperity, and promise a rapid growth of the churches generally.

The only exceptions to be found show themselves where, of necessity, they must exist—in the new missionary fields, where the foundations of Zion are just being laid, and in the missionary fields of the extreme East, from which emigration is constantly bearing away much of the consecrated wealth and talent of the churches. The wants of the first are mentioned in every Narrative from frontier States. Presbyteries in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, speak alike of the lack of means to build churches as the great drawback to their prosperity. Their testimony is, that unless this lack be supplied, the missionary labor of our Church must finally fail of the best fruits desired and expected from it. But they anticipate that it will be supplied, and there are now many signs that this anticipation will be realized. The demands that they make are not to supply the losses of defeat, but to improve the advantages of victory. Those advantages will be seen by the liberal-hearted who love our Zion; and they will supply means by which such an improvement of them may be made, as will insure greater victories still.

SUMMARY.

Looking at the condition of our Church from either a worldly or a religious stand-point, its prosperity appears greater than at any previous period. Its standing and influence as a Christian power in the land are acknowledged. All its agencies of growth and usefulness are now, or soon will be, in complete order and successful operation. All the omens of increasing eminence attend its labors. The smiles of Divine Providence rest upon it. Best of all, the Spirit of God dwells in its midst, revealing His purpose to be more gracious in the future than even in the near past. The thoughtful in all the churches so interpret His dealings with them, and are praying that His glory may be displayed to all in the land, as the Redeemer of souls. He will not disappoint them.

DELINQUENT PRESBYTERIES.

The following Presbyteries have failed to send their Narratives to the Assembly: Cortland, Ithaca, Cincinnati, Ripley, Wabash, Ottawa, Fox

River, Iowa City, Kansas, Kingston, Holston, San Francisco, San José, Sierra Nevada, and Washoe.

DECEASE OF MINISTERS.

The following thirty-five ministers have died during the year:

NAME.	AGE.	DATE.	PLACE.	PRESBYTERY.
Abbey, David A.	52	Dec. 6, 1865.	Apalachin, N. Y.	Tioga.
Agnew, J. Holmes, D. D.	61	Oct. 12, 1865.	Peekskill, N. Y.	New York, Fourth.
Baldwin, Truman	84	July 27, 1865.	Cicero, N. Y.	Onondaga.
Burchard, Ely	77	Feb. 4, 1866.	Clinton, N. Y.	Utica.
Dodd, Edward M.	41	Aug. 19, 1865.	Marsovan, W. Asia	Newark.
Farrand, Bethuel	53	May 7, 1866.	Ontario, Ind.	St. Joseph.
Ford, J. Edwards	40	April 3, 1866.	Geneseo, Ill.	New York, Fourth.
Goodell, William	...	Oct. 26, 1865.	Throop, N. Y.	Cayuga.
Gordon, Peter	...	Sept. ..., 1865.	South Easton, N. Y.	Troy.
Goss, Simon S.	...	May 25, 1865.	Rochester, N. Y.	Cayuga.
Hicks, Marcus	52	Feb. 19, 1866.	Walnut Hills, O.	Cincinnati.
Holcomb, Chester	61	Sept. 21, 1865.	Newark, N. Y.	Lyons.
Hollister, Amos D.	64	Oct. 20, 1865.	Washington, D. C.	District of Columbia.
Holt, Edmund D.	62	June 11, 1865.	Chatfield, Minn.	Winona.
Hoyt, Ova P., D. D.	65	Feb. 11, 1866.	Kalamazoo, Mich.	Kalamazoo.
Jenkins, Warren	62	May 11, 1866.	Columbus, O.	Franklin.
Jones, Williston	51	Nov. 27, 1865.	Rolla, Mo.	St. Louis.
Kimball, Milton	66	Oct. 10, 1865.	Augusta, Ill.	Schuyler.
Lee, Samuel	60	Jan. 28, 1866.	Mantua, O.	Cleveland and Portage.
Loss, Lewis H.	64	July 10, 1865.	Marshalltown, Io.	Cedar Rapids.
Luce, Abraham	74	Oct. 23, 1865.	River Head, L. I., N. Y.	Long Island.
Martin, Asa	...	Nov. 9, 1865.	Mehasha Co., Io.	Chariton.
Martin, Wm. Wisner	27	Oct. 16, 1865.	Brooklyn, N. Y.	San José.
Morgan, Homer B.	38	Aug. 26, 1865.	Smyrna, W. Asia	Watertown.
Parker, Samuel	87	Mar. 21, 1866.	Ithaca, N. Y.	Ithaca.
Rhea, Samuel A.	38	Sept. 3, 1865.	Oroomiah, Persia	Holston.
Richardson, J. Clark	43	Sept. 30, 1865.	Ossian, N. Y.	Genesee Valley.
Riggs, Joseph L.	55	Aug. 20, 1865.	Elmira, N. Y.	Wellsboro'.
Robinson, Moses	50	Sept. 2, 1865.	Mt. Pleasant, Io.	Cedar Rapids.
Searle, Moses C.	68	Dec. 10, 1865.	Byfield, Mass.	Troy.
Seeley, Amos W.	60	Sept. 12, 1865.	Brooklyn, E. D., N. Y.	Utica.
Terry, Parshall	...	Oct. 20, 1865.	Welshfield, O.	Cortland.
Tuttle, Jacob	79	Jan. 6, 1866.	Jersey, O.	Pataskala.
Tuttle, Samuel L.	50	April 16, 1866.	Madison, N. J.	Newark.
Zonne, Peter	...	....	Holland, Wis.	Milwaukee.

By order of the General Assembly.

SAMUEL M. HOPKINS, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	79	1	11	67	334	167	8,115	1130	126	101	6,246	$395 67	$3,480	$4,027	$345	$203	$42	$126,005	$7,553	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	...	4	18	101	38	2,253	455	35	26	1,908	65 00	768	1,033	114	...	...	19,973	1,938	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	25	1	4	18	44	31	2,281	525	17	31	1,514	115 89	1,023	1,263	158	...	...	25,939	2,392	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
3. Albany	1791	...	13	...	1	11	96	57	1,514	15	36	16	1,555	97 10	785	696	12	52	5	67,047	326	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	...	6	48	13	825	122	22	10	470	48 86	165	477	37	25	37	6,610	974	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	11	...	2	11	45	28	1,239	13	16	18	799	68 82	739	558	24	126	...	6,136	1,923	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	84	3	3	68	260	213	6,544	85	96	95	4,474	356 15	7,274	5,010	1461	4040	36	41,166	10,508	William E. Knox, D. D.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	1	8	34	26	778	9	10	13	500	43 44	344	564	5	776	18	2,198	844	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	23	...	2	18	59	51	1,598	54	25	19	1,288	103 26	426	737	115	318	18	23,367	2,376	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	9	...	...	10	38	22	904	22	11	5	887	13 00	669	451	195	...	...	6,456	1,162	J. Niles Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	43	3	...	32	129	114	3,264	...	50	58	1,799	196 45	5,835	3,258	1146	2946	...	9,445	6,126	Samuel W. Brace.
III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	91	17	14	71	674	269	8,465	148	299	111	5,534	473 67	4,588	5,832	4068	1101	158	54,847	6,237	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	23	...	...	21	212	66	2,334	...	88	31	1,235	119 00	1,139	1,379	334	129	53	9,829	2,246	John F. Kendall.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	35	16	14	23	86	96	2,660	...	26	54	1,700	160 92	1,862	2,239	3319	282	105	21,781	2,129	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	11	...	...	16	86	44	1,658	97	46	9	1,355	102 30	599	1,282	279	69	...	11,313	1,196	
4. Tioga	1829	...	22	1	...	11	290	63	1,813	51	139	17	1,244	91 45	988	932	136	621	...	11,924	666	T. Dwight Walker.
IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	110	5	10	90	303	212	8,722	375	123	97	7,353	517 59	3,577	3,734	665	676	21	57,971	7,176	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	40	1	...	18	46	42	2,493	136	15	21	2,293	153 06	1,113	1,253	120	92	10	19,929	2,376	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	..	16	...	2	18	138	52	1,488	112	61	19	1,300	67 63	415	301	15	64	2	12,101	2,020	William A. Niles.
3. Chemung	1836	...	18	..	1	16	19	37	1,345	...	10	27	1,135	83 22	1,172	765	245	269	...	1,790	673	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	8	1	4	9	17	12	1,029	43	5	7	877	74 10	528	691	36	150	9	8,400	866	Warren Mayo.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	12	1	...	13	16	9	552	3	12	1	181	32 00	......	18	34	2	...	25	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	16	2	3	16	67	60	1,815	81	20	22	1,567	107 58	349	706	215	99	...	15,726	1,241	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA	1853	3	37	...	1	41	215	91	3,513	105	60	38	2,405	229 25	934	1,608	658	415	150	16,118	2,360	Willard M. Hoyt.
1. Otsego	1820	...	17	...	...	18	82	38	1,445	90	31	18	1,066	100 05	359	839	154	118	67	9,711	1,726	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	9	...	...	12	61	32	1,209	...	24	9	260	79 70	366	628	334	263	31	4,850	170	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	11	...	1	11	72	21	859	15	5	11	1,079	49 50	209	141	170	34	52	1,557	464	Leonard E. Richards.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE......	1821	6	134	6	12	103	403	388	13,112	580	155	166	12,852	$600 94	$9,746	$7,555	$1106	$710	$288	$105,015	$23,378	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	40	3	6	28	74	113	3,626	121	29	41	2,612	216 20	4,447	2,574	356	253	8	37,101	5,113	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	18	...	2	12	35	38	1,557	74	10	27	1,174	82 25	622	673	206	234	80	11,438	1,188	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester......................	1819	...	27	3	1	17	76	73	3,224	23	26	41	3,283	*20 25	2,290	2,512	294	15	75	27,470	10,748	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee......................	1819	..	14	...	3	16	58	43	1,398	89	25	11	1,547	83 70	758	790	180	116	102	14,692	2,473	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara......................	1823	...	20	...	...	16	85	60	2,165	165	29	24	2,690	132 54	1,034	650	18	83	18	1,799	1,786	William G. Hubbard.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	15	...	...	14	75	61	1,142	108	36	19	1,546	66 00	595	356	52	9	5	12,515	2,070	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J....	1788	9	280	14	68	165	1616	1670	30,509	1141	501	774	29,668	1772 63	31,221	40 596	7466	2607	1892	500,265	103,542	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson..........	1797	...	17	...	4	12	31	34	1,652	...	17	38	870	102 50	300	543	112	27	10	6,273	2,253	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River................	1819	...	23	2	1	17	93	26	1,898	78	58	27	1,372	119 50	387	556	61	37	99	15,559	1,468	Elisha G. Cobb.
3. Long Island.	1791	...	8	...	...	6	26	9	690	6	11	8	644	41 60	109	246	32	32	...	8,235	573	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third........	1831	...	60	8	23	23	372	391	6,957	398	93	240	8,092	416 00	7,996	11,435	2199	1005	511	89,964	31,352	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth......	1845	...	48	24	21	15	219	272	4,064	413	67	86	4,835	228 21	10,109	15,826	2933	726	541	175,982	23,327	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	22	3	1	8	284	229	3,131	84	89	90	2,318	168 90	4,995	3,392	848	...	...	64,547	16,287	William S. Karr.
7. Newark......................	1824	...	49	5	11	30	324	572	7,100	139	70	190	6,957	410 00	4,752	6,302	805	550	668	97,465	24,690	James Hoyt.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	21	1	4	20	46	57	2,161	97	13	31	2,051	131 84	712	978	284	126	63	18,471	1,591	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose......................	1832	...	32	1	3	34	221	77	2,556	229	86	64	2,529	151 05	1,831	1,318	192	104	...	23,769	2,001	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA..	1838	5	108	7	17	89	1403	503	15,457	930	420	643	16,997	997 80	13,906	13,795	2808	4696	2048	205,906	119,499	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington..........	1833	...	12	...	...	17	124	26	1,735	10	54	55	2,120	110 00	3,495	703	693	507	147	11.374	321	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third...	1832	...	37	1	2	21	413	206	4,115	354	103	201	5,583	240 00	6,391	4,998	972	3281	711	92,707	91,044	J.Glentworth Butler, D.D.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth..	1845	...	38	3	10	30	455	176	6,454	495	151	269	6,187	360 80	2,134	5,159	825	558	284	50,080	19,869	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh................	1839	...	12	2	3	9	244	39	1,293	40	79	60	1,564	116 00	1,466	1,991	294	269	844	35,532	3,686	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia...	1831	...	9	1	2	9	167	56	1,560	31	33	58	1,543	171 00	420	914	24	81	62	16,213	1,579	William McLain, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN...	1843	3	30	1	3	31	330	162	3,299	89	130	83	3,084	174 80	2,859	2,378	1435	169	149	96,080	4,875	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie..............................	1801	...	15	...	...	13	194	63	1,528	16	86	32	1,400	82 15	489	516	120	88	149	11,924	1.047	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville....................	1842	...	9	1	...	13	109	80	932	6	36	35	701	44 65	189	317	66	67	...	20,585	1,000	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	6	...	3	5	27	19	839	67	8	16	980	48 00	2,181	1,545	1249	14	...	63,571	2,828	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	8	117	5	12	113	703	546	9,497	341	217	223	8,035	565 71	3,148	3,938	1532	938	136	79,459	9,025	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit........................	1826	...	20	1	4	15	110	73	1,488	11	30	32	510	81 67	898	949	674	386	...	3.568	2,562	
2. Monroe	1833	...	12	...	1	17	45	60	1,437	38	17	40	1,260	77 22	371	570	95	113	16	18,947	557	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall......................	1838	...	14	1	1	19	123	50	1,444	104	31	22	780	68 81	424	377	165	75	32	5,457	772	Loomis Chandler.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

4. Washtenaw	1838	...	13	2	3	8	111	45	1,145	64	35	22	1,000	85 32	286	354	118	53	14	9,284	278	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	20	1	1	16	69	82	1,529	107	20	40	1,735	92 00	551	965	210	46	26	17,381	3,309	Job Pierson.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	12	...	...	12	162	83	1,076	14	68	26	1,285	65 94	245	306	46	70	24	11,326	456	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	14	...	...	16	62	109	891	...	5	37	1,031	69 00	311	331	208	172	...	10,699	999	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	12	...	2	10	21	41	487	3	11	4	434	25 75	59	86	16	23	24	2,797	92	George Ransom.
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE.	1825	6	103	4	16	77	574	405	6,306	162	218	192	6,570	354 51	3,309	5,266	2709	1594	304	93,389	50,487	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1811	...	7	...	...	5	9	21	439	...	...	7	......	26 34	97	121	......	5	...	....	516	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	17	...	3	15	186	67	1,390	28	84	48	1,818	76 50	336	501	205	26	80	18,459	1,999	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull	1827	...	15	2	1	16	127	81	1,273	46	38	48	1,475	70 14	481	629	797	27	36	35,255	6,347	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland and Portage	1830	...	45	2	10	18	150	84	1,812	66	59	55	1,737	102 96	1,994	3,111	629	616	66	20,262	40,574	James Shaw, D. D.
5. Elyria	1842	...	12	...	...	11	36	15	591	14	17	6	322	36 75	266	309	47	139	...	525	490	Ansel R. Clark.
6. Maumee	1842	...	7	...	2	12	66	137	768	8	20	28	1,218	41 85	135	595	1034	781	122	18,888	560	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO	1814	4	51	3	8	65	441	257	4,355	87	127	162	4,047	249 52	2,085	3,142	668	455	145	38,879	13,041	Addison Kingsbury, D.D.
1. Athens	1822	...	16	2	7	17	89	114	823	10	20	45	325	46 08	103	324	48	35	...	1,000	9,897	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	16	...	1	23	149	74	1,549	48	42	47	1,644	88 44	584	844	223	264	30	14,549	1,649	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	13	1	...	16	126	42	1,245	29	44	31	978	73 00	471	1,021	185	55	15	9,489	575	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	6	...	...	9	77	27	738	...	21	39	1,100	42 00	927	953	212	101	100	13,841	920	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	1829	4	55	3	3	48	397	146	3,446	111	119	115	4,779	263 08	2,178	3,164	821	432	406	43,828	8,428	William M. Cheever.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	29	2	3	16	104	51	1,032	60	26	55	2,134	116 00	908	2,037	608	265	381	28,509	6,900	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	6	...	...	14	115	35	856	4	36	21	615	45 18	190	55	12	62	...	242	190	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	...	9	...	...	10	62	27	844	42	26	26	1,455	58 30	562	577	111	...	...	10,440	1,057	William M. Cheever.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	11	1	...	8	116	33	714	5	31	13	575	43 60	518	495	90	105	25	4,637	281	John Hussey.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA	1826	4	42	3	4	61	393	235	3,991	129	150	141	4,200	242 56	1,828	2,919	1330	249	144	58,774	8,384	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	...	2	12	84	60	1,042	29	28	38	1,628	70 14	446	873	190	119	59	18,476	5,139	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	13	2	2	16	100	52	1,013	90	28	35	990	60 00	740	700	99	63	...	9,020	709	Archibald S. Reid.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	1	...	17	140	87	1,182	2	66	34	1,050	68 50	391	990	960	45	73	27,910	1,306	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	7	...	...	16	69	36	757	8	28	34	532	43 92	251	356	31	22	12	3,368	1,230	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH	1851	4	35	2	6	56	321	131	3,093	33	134	78	2,831	126 62	829	1,089	444	223	69	22,036	1,388	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	12	1	1	12	11	13	570	5	4	7	246	30 82	18	91	......	4	...	561	65	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	9	...	...	14	90	27	835	9	44	19	1,000	36 65	237	367	124	3	29	5,900	691	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	1	4	21	142	65	1,162	4	55	36	835	28 15	449	554	292	171	40	9,426	489	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	6	...	1	9	78	26	526	15	31	16	750	31 00	125	77	28	45	...	6,149	143	William J. Essick.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS	1831	4	84	...	1	89	458	378	5,049	144	129	190	6,006	292 42	2,990	2,037	375	585	70	40,459	6,244	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	...	...	20	168	94	1,621	...	47	42	1,305	93 00	953	1,099	201	361	...	7,000	1,472	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	18	...	1	18	101	36	1,186	26	34	54	1,355	70 62	384	388	65	153	13	3,970	1,276	George I. King, D. D.
3. Wabash	1833	...	16	...	...	14	68	93	667	19	19	35	1,325	33 20	279	171	12	18	29	7,655	1,173	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	32	...	...	37	121	155	1,575	99	29	59	2,021	95 60	1,374	379	97	53	28	21,834	2,323	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA	1843	5	91	2	16	66	496	469	6,518	132	178	221	8,211	316 08	3,619	3,688	650	224	18	132,237	16,020	Zeph. M. Humphrey, D.D.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	15	...	...	9	32	31	521	2	8	10	390	26 50	207	198	......	...	...	11,291	273	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	12	1	7	6	136	64	1,131	34	54	23	880	43 38	303	361	130	57	...	12,961	1,386	Samuel Wyckoff.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
3. Galena and Belvidere.	1842	...	24	...	2	21	91	83	1,466	...	27	64	1,621	$93 30	$751	$608	$23	$29	$18	$15,135	564	Isaac E. Carey.
4. Chicago	1847	...	30	1	6	16	87	221	2,174	96	30	105	4,784	111 80	2,163	2,393	428	124	...	85,155	12,762	Edward A. Pierce.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	10	...	1	14	150	70	926	...	59	19	536	41 10	195	128	69	14	...	7,695	1,035	John W. Bailey.
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN	1857	4	44	...	2	33	108	73	1,564	29	15	41	1,955	96 90	509	258	20	7	41	15,114	1,124	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	14	...	...	9	1	8	646	2	...	10	915	41 00	219	49	......	...	...	7,806	666	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851	...	11	...	...	8	62	24	381	7	5	14	230	21 50	148	26	......	...	...	1,650	213	Silas H. Ashmun.
3. Columbus	1857	...	11	...	1	12	28	27	442	20	6	16	690	28 20	102	94	......	7	...	4,198	143	Benjamin G. Riley.
4. Lake Superior	1857	...	5	...	1	4	17	11	95	...	4	4	120	6 20	40	89	20	...	41	1,460	102	Cicero B. Stevens.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA	1853	6	55	1	5	59	179	202	2,429	101	67	110	3,154	128 58	705	526	96	92	12	28,036	2,337	Hannibal L. Stanley.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	8	...	2	10	69	26	337	1	26	13	500	16 20	91	73	10	21	...	6,783	455	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk	1852	...	6	...	...	5	14	8	279	48	4	10	671	24 91	110	150	......	...	...	1,725	279	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City	1852	...	15	...	...	8	25	26	277	8	4	9	465	21 00	137	6	14	33	...	2,237	128	George D. A. Hebard.
4. Dubuque	1855	...	11	1	2	15	32	33	652	21	12	35	603	35 90	131	98	46	13	...	12,220	970	Stephen Phelps.
5. Chariton*.	1857	...	3	...	...	7	...	...	315													
6. Cedar Rapids	1865	...	12	...	1	14	39	109	569	23	21	43	915	30 57	236	199	26	22	12	5,071	505	James Knox.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA	1858	3	28	...	1	28	284	157	1,483	7	111	153	2,155	71 50	424	403	93	77	5	8,462	4,366	Charles S. Le Duc.
1. Dakota	1846	...	12	...	1	12	158	79	767	...	80	142	672	36 20	83	59	10	15	5	3,250	222	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	11	...	...	10	80	55	450	...	19	...	1,008	22 00	293	314	83	62	...	2,498	4,039	John Mattocks.
3. Winona	1857	...	5	...	...	6	46	23	266	7	12	11	475	13 30	48	30	......	...	...	2,714	105	Joseph W. Hancock.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI	1832	5	29	3	...	42	96	121	1,323	139	32	67	1,244	66 45	1,248	1,182	357	301	60	13,715	13,999	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	8	...	...	10	35	46	579	53	7	26	787	28 00	1,034	999	329	180	60	10,115	12,925	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	5	...	...	10	14	6	266	5	4	5	230	15 00	88	84	3	...	...	65	106	Elijah A. Carson.
3. Lexington	1842	...	7	...	...	5	14	52	127	81	5	19	127	10 36	109	72	25	121	...	3,435	218	James A. Darrah.
4. Osage*	1845	...	3	1	...	4	...	...	145													
5. Kansas	1859	...	6	2	...	13	33	17	206	...	16	17	100	13 09	17	27	......	...	...	100	750	William H. Smith.
XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.	1817	3	23	...	2	46	208	38	2,722	40	30	47	674	104 20	......	......	......	...	...	965	......	Thomas J. Lamar.
1. Union	1797	...	10	...	2	25	160	30	1,746	...	28	42	523	83 50	......	......	......	...	...	......	......	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston*	1838	...	4	...	...	10	...	...	415	...	...	...	......	......	.....	......	......	...	...	......	......	William B. Brown.
3. Holston	1865	...	9	...	...	11	48	8	561	40	2	5	151	20 70	......	......	......	...	...	965	......	Samuel V. McCorkle.
XXIII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA	1857	4	29	...	...	20	93	116	886	16	15	82	1,165	......	355	175	......	...	...	9,440	735	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	9	...	...	3	31	59	311	...	3	36	570	......	156	75	......	...	...	......	220	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	5	...	...	4	14	12	196	16	4	29	485	......	90	40	......	...	...	9,440	400	Charles C. Wallace.
3. San José	1857	...	11	...	...	9	48	45	316	...	8	17	110	......	109	60	......	...	...	......	115	George Pierson, M. D.
4. Washoe*	1863	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	63	...	...	...	...	......	......	......	......	...	...	.....	.....	Albert F. White.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.							
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	79	1	11	67	334	167	8,115	1130	126	101	6,246	$395 67	$3,480	$4,027	$345	$203	$42	$126,005	$7,553
2. Utica	1829	4	84	3	3	68	260	213	6,544	85	96	95	4,474	356 15	7,274	5,010	1,461	4,040	36	41,466	10,508
3. Onondaga	1855	4	91	17	14	71	674	269	8,465	148	299	111	5,534	473 67	4,588	5,832	4,068	1,101	158	54,847	6.237
4. Geneva	1812	6	110	5	10	90	303	212	8,722	375	123	97	7,353	517 59	3,577	3,734	665	676	21	57,971	7.176
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	37	...	1	41	215	91	3,513	105	60	38	2,405	229 25	934	1,608	658	415	150	16,118	2,360
6. Genesee	1821	6	134	6	12	103	403	388	13,112	580	155	166	12,852	600 94	9,716	7,555	1,106	710	288	105,015	23,378
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	280	44	68	165	1,616	1670	30.509	1444	504	774	29,668	1772 63	31.221	40,596	7,466	2,607	1892	500,265	103,542
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	108	7	17	89	1,403	503	15,457	930	420	643	16,997	997 80	13,906	13,795	2,808	4,696	2048	205,906	119,499
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	30	1	3	31	330	162	3,299	89	130	83	3,084	174 80	2,859	2,378	1,435	169	149	96,080	4,875
10. Michigan	1834	8	117	5	12	113	703	546	9.497	311	217	223	8,035	565 71	3,148	3,938	1,532	938	136	79,459	9.025
11. Western Reserve	1825	6	103	4	16	77	574	405	6,306	162	218	192	6,570	354 54	3.309	5,266	2,709	1,594	304	93,389	50,487
12. Ohio	1814	4	51	3	8	65	441	257	4,355	87	127	162	4,047	249 52	2,085	3,142	668	455	145	38,879	13,041
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	55	3	3	48	397	146	3,446	111	119	115	4,779	263 08	2.178	3,164	821	432	406	43.828	8,428
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	3	4	61	393	235	3,994	129	150	141	4,200	242 56	1,828	2,919	1.330	249	144	58,774	8.384
15. Wabash	1851	4	35	2	6	56	321	131	3,093	33	134	78	2.831	126 62	829	1,089	444	223	69	22,036	1,388
16. Illinois	1831	4	84	...	1	89	458	378	5,049	144	129	190	6,006	292 42	2,990	2,037	375	585	70	40,459	6,244
17. Peoria	1843	5	91	2	16	66	496	469	6,518	132	178	221	8,211	316 08	3,619	3,688	650	224	18	132,237	16,020
18. Wisconsin	1857	4	44	...	2	33	108	73	1,564	29	15	44	1,955	96 90	509	258	20	7	41	15,114	1,124
19. Iowa	1853	6	55	1	5	59	179	202	2,429	101	67	110	3,154	128 58	705	526	96	92	12	28,036	2,337
20. Minnesota	1858	3	28	...	1	28	284	157	1,483	7	111	153	2,155	71 50	424	403	93	77	5	8,462	4,366
21. Missouri	1832	5	29	3	...	42	96	121	1.323	139	32	67	1,244	66 45	1,248	1,182	357	301	60	13,715	13,999
22. Tennessee	1817	3	23	...	2	46	208	38	2,722	40	30	47	674	104 20	....	......	......	......	.....	965	
23. Alta California	1857	4	29	...	...	20	93	116	886	16	15	82	1,165	....	355	175	......	......	.....	9,440	735
		109	1739	110	215	1528	10,289	6949	150,401	6357	3455	3933	143,639	$8396 66	$100,812	$112,322	$29,107	$19,794	$6194	$1,788,466	$420,706

MINUTES, 1867.

Rochester, New York, May 16th. 1867.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Brick Presbyterian church of Rochester, New York, on Thursday, May, 16th, 1867, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Acts 9 : 31 : "Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and, walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the sessions of the Assembly be opened at 8½ o'clock A. M. and 3 o'clock P. M.; that they close at 12 M. and 5½ o'clock P. M.; that the evening services commence at 7½ o'clock; and that the daily morning prayer-meeting commence at the opening, and continue one hour. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [462]

Thursday, May 16th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	Alanson D. Barber,	George V. Hoyle.
2. *Troy,*	Marvin R. Vincent,	Giles B. Kellogg.
	Andrew J. Fennel,	
3. *Albany,*	Henry Darling, D. D.,	Samuel Anable.
4. *Columbia,*	John McVey.	
5. *Catskill,*	Alvin Cooper,	Samuel B. Spees.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *St. Lawrence,*	Baruch B. Beckwith,	George Rodgers.
2. *Watertown,*	Samuel L. Merrell,	Ezra Botsford.
3. *Oswego,*	Thomas A. Weed,	Samuel Smith.
4. *Utica,*	Benj. F. Willoughby,	Daniel Nolton,
	Albert Erdman,	Elias D. Porter.

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga,*	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	Amasa H. Jerome.
2. *Cayuga,*	Charles Hawley, D. D.,	Sidney L. Benedict,
	John V. C. Nellis,	Richard Steel.
3. *Cortland,*	Peleg R. Kinne,	Henry B. Van Hosen.
4. *Tioga,*	George N. Todd,	Calvin W. Bradley.

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	John B. Richardson,	John Hatmaker, M. D.,
	Harry E. Woodcock,	Robert Rorison.
2. *Steuben*,	David F. Judson,	William D. Terbell, M. D.
3. *Chemung*,	Benjamin Russell,	Cyrus Sebring.
4. *Ithaca*,	William Wisner, D. D.,	Lucius Fenn (3).
5. *Wellsboro*,	James F. Calkins,	Hon. Henry W. Williams.
6. *Lyons*,	William Young,	Reuben Sours.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Ariel McMaster,	George W. Burnham.
2. *Chenango*,	Eleroy Curtis,	Franklin Edgerton.
3. *Delaware*,	George W. McMillan,	Orrin S. Penfield.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Joel F. Bingham,	Alpheus Moore,
	William L. Hyde,	Noah H. Gardner.
2. *Ontario*,	Dwight Scovel,	Solomon Taintor, M. D.
3. *Rochester*,	Sam. M. Campbell, D. D.,	Frederick Starr,
	Alex. McA. Thorburn,	Truman A. Newton.
4. *Genesee*,	Charles C. Kimball,	William Bradley.
5. *Niagara*,	William C. Wisner, D. D.,	Asa Howard.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Charles M. Livingston,	Moses Lockhart. [463]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Thomas Nichols,	Jirah I. Foote.
2. *North River*,	Francis B. Wheeler,	Joseph Bartlett.
3. *Long Island*,	James T. Hamlin,	Walter R. Havens.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Dwight M. Seward, D. D.,	Joseph Ditto,
	James Morton,	John Anderson.
	Edward W. Hitchcock,	
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	William Adams, D. D.,	John P. Crosby,
	Erskine N. White,	George W. Lane.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D.,	Fisher Howe,
	Chas. S. Robinson, D. D.,	Nathan Lane.
7. *Newark*,	Isaac N. Sprague, D. D.,	Zenas C. Crane,
	John Ulrich Guenther,	Moses W. Dodd.
8. *Rockaway*,	Burtis C. Megie,	Hon. John Hill,
	O. H. Perry Deyo,	Titus Berry.
9. *Montrose*,	Henry J. Crane,	William H. Jessup,
	James B. Wilson,	Stephen Torrey.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	William Aikman,	Jacob Y. Foulk.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	William W. Taylor,	William E. Tenbrook,
	H. Augustus Smith,	Henry P. M. Birkinbine.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	James W. Wood,	John C. Farr,
	Cornelius Earle,	Joseph F. Jaggers.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Henry E. Niles,	James W. Kerr, M. D.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	George H. Smyth,	John P. Ammidon.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie,*	George A. Lyon, D. D.,	Hiram Johnson.
2. *Meadville,*	W. Howell Taylor,	Samuel Axtell.
3. *Pittsburgh,*	Herrick Johnson,	Hon. H. W. Williams, LL.D.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit,*	W. Henry McGiffert,	Alfred B. Gully.
2. *Monroe,*	William S. Taylor.	
3. *Marshall,*	Calvin Clark,	Henry H. Barnes (3).
4. *Washtenaw,*	Charles G. Clark,	Joseph M. Holden.
5. *Kalamazoo,*	Job Pierson.	
6. *Coldwater,*	Alanson Scofield,	James R. Davies.
7. *Saginaw,*	Thomas Wright,	Benjamin Bangs.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.,*	Daniel H. Evans,	Sarell Wood.
9. *Lansing,*	Alfred Bryant,	John R. Price (4).

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River,*	Joseph N. McGiffert,	Orramel H. Fitch.
2. *Huron,*	John H. Walter,	Jonathan M. Drury.
3. *Trumbull,*	Benjamin F. Sharp,	Elias Lyman.
4. *Cleveland and Portage,*	Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D.,	George H. Ely,
	Wm. H. Goodrich, D. D.,	Hon. Truman P. Handy.
5. *Maumee,*	Henry M. Bacon,	Harry Chase. [464]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens,*	Hugh B. Scott,	Marcus Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala,*	George A. Little,	Timothy M. Rose.
3. *Franklin,*	Oren H. Newton.	
4. *Scioto,*	John H. Young,	William Hamilton.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati,*	Osman A. Lyman,	Asa B. Waters,
	William D. Rosseter,	George Harvey, M. D. (10).
2. *Ripley,*	David Vandyke.	
3. *Dayton,*	Benjamin Graves,	Hon. Peter Odlin.
4. *Hamilton,*	John Noble,	Waldo F. Brown.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem,*	Irvin I. St. John.	
2. *Madison,*	Archibald S. Reid,	John T. Whitlock.
3. *Indianapolis,*	Arthur T. Rankin,	William N. Jackson (5).
4. *Green Castle,*	Henry L. Dickerson,	Curtis J. Ripley.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville,*	William N. Steele,	William Vandervolgen.
2. *St. Joseph,*	John E. Chapin,	Amos Davis.
3. *Logansport,*	James A. Carnahan,	Richard Brown.
4. *Fort Wayne,*	William C. Smith.	

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	Livingston M. Glover, D. D.	
2. *Schuyler*,	Edwin L. Hurd,	Samuel Crawford.
3. *Wabash*,	Edwin Black,	Samuel Daggy, M. D.
4. *Alton*,	Thomas Lippincott,	Russell Hinckley,
	Eli W. Taylor,	George E. Warren.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	John Kidd,	Charles Merwin.
2. *Knox*,	Asahel L. Brooks,	Alfred Beasley, M. D.
3. *Galena & Belvidere*,	Erasmus D. Willis,	Manley Rogers,
	Isaac E. Carey,	John Yourt.
4. *Chicago*,	James H. Trowbridge,	Royal E. Barber,
	David Swing,	Samuel D. Ward.
5. *Bloomington*,	Martin P. Ormsby,	Lumen W. Capen.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	William J. Stoutenburg,	Harvey Curtis.
2. *Fox River*,	Silas H. Ashmun,	Wilson Holt.
3. *Columbus*,	James A. Laurie,	Alanson Hughson.
4. *Lake Superior*,	Thomas R. Easterday,	Philetus S. Church.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	James M. Phillips,	George J. North.
2. *Keokuk*,	Immer N. Crittenden,	George B. Smythe.
3. *Iowa City*,	Franklin L. Arnold,	Alexander Danskin.
4. *Dubuque*,	Stephen Phelps,	John Maclay.
5. *Chariton.*		
6. *Cedar Rapids*,	James Knox,	John F. Ely, M. D. [465]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Dakota*,	Thomas Marshall,	George C. Clapp.
2. *Minnesota*,	Henry Ward,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
3. *Winona*,	Joseph W. Hancock,	Caleb J. F. Smith.

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.,	Theophilus W. Guy.
2. *Northern Missouri*,	James A. Darrah.	
3. *Lexington*,	Elisha B. Sherwood,	Willis M. Sherwood.
4. *Osage.*		
5. *Kansas*,	Andrew Parsons.	

XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	William H. Lyle,	Benjamin A. Blackburn.
2. *Kingston*,	Wallace W. Thorpe.	
3. *Holston*,	Francis A. McCorkle.	

XXIII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Sierra Nevada*,	D. Henry Palmer.	
3. *San José*,	Henry S. Huntington,	John A. Perkins.
4. *Washhoe*,	John B. Pinney, LL.D.	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1.	*General Assembly of the other Branch,*	E. A. Raymond, Esq.
2.	*General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
3.	*General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,*	Robert Audley Browne, D. D.
4.	*General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland,*	Patrick Fairbairn, D. D., Rev. James Wells.
5.	*General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland,*	James Denham, D. D., John Hall, D. D.
6.	*General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America,*	John C. F. Hoes, D. D.
7.	*General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*	
8.	*General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	
9.	*General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*	[466]
10.	*General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.*	
11.	*General Association of New Hampshire,*	Rev. Ebenezer G. Parsons.
12.	*General Convention of Vermont.*	
13.	*General Association of Massachusetts.*	
14.	*General Association of Connecticut,*	Robert G. Vermilye, D. D.
15.	*Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
16.	*Union of Evangelical Churches of France.*	

The Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. William S. Taylor, of the Presbytery of Monroe, and the Rev. Alvin Cooper, of the Presbytery of Catskill, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

The reception of the Synodical Records, and of all papers intended for the Assembly, was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Mr. John P. Crosby and Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D., as an *Auditing Committee.*

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., James A. Carnahan, Dwight M. Seward, D. D., Elisha B. Sherwood, Erasmus D. Willis, Burtis C. Megie. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D., John P. Crosby, Giles B. Kellogg, John C. Farr, Lumen W. Capen. [467]

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—William Adams, D. D., Livingston M. Glover, D. D., James Knox, Thomas Wright, James A. Darrah, William L. Hyde. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, George J. North, George H. Ely, Alpheus Moore, Orrin S. Penfield.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—George A. Lyon, D. D., Charles Hawley, D. D., Francis B. Wheeler, John B. Richardson, James H. Trowbridge, Benjamin F. Sharp. *Elders*—George W. Lane, John F. Ely, M. D., Russell Hinckley, Wilson Holt, Richard Brown.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—William Aikman, Calvin Clark, Joel F. Bingham, William W. Taylor, Stephen Phelps, Wallace W. Thorpe. *Elders*—Richard Steel, Joseph Bartlett, William H. Jessup, Marcus Bosworth, John T. Whitlock.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Henry L. Hitchcock, D. D.. David Swing. Marvin R. Vincent, Osman A. Lyman, Andrew Parsons, Cornelius Earle. *Elders*—Fisher Howe, Samuel Anable, Solomon Taintor, M. D., John Yourt, Timothy M. Rose.

6. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Henry Darling, D. D., Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., Francis A. McCorkle, Edwin L. Hurd, Franklin L. Arnold, Job Pierson. *Elders*—Hon. Truman P. Handy, Daniel W. Ingersoll, Philetus S. Church, William E. Tenbrook, Samuel Daggy, M. D.

7. *Church Erection. Ministers*—William H. Goodrich, D. D., Asahel L. Brooks, Erskine N. White, James F. Calkins, Henry E. Niles, Thomas Marshall. *Elders*—Theophilus W. Guy, Samuel B. Spees, Stephen Torrey, Asa B. Waters, Caleb J. F. Smith.

8. *Publication. Ministers*—William C. Wisner, D. D., Herrick Johnson, James W. Wood, James M. Phillips, Henry Ward, James A. Laurie. *Elders*—Daniel Nolton, Noah H. Gardner, Calvin W. Bradley, Zenas C. Crane, Orramel H. Fitch [468]

9. *Sabbath-schools. Ministers*—Charles S. Robinson, D. D., Thomas Lippincott, Albert Erdman, Joseph N. McGiffert, Edward W. Hitchcock, George H. Smyth. *Elders*—Hon. John Hill, Sidney L. Benedict, George Rodgers, George B. Smythe, Henry P M. Birkinbine.

10. *Ministerial Relief. Ministers*—Isaac N. Sprague, D. D., Peleg R. Kinne, Andrew J. Fennel, Eleroy Curtis, Silas H. Ashmun, Arthur T. Rankin. *Elders*—Ezra Botsford, Robert Rorison, Alexander Danskin, Royal E. Barber, Jonathan M. Drury.

11. *Narrative of Religion. Ministers*—Isaac E. Carey, Henry M. Bacon, Thomas A. Weed, George N. Todd, David F. Judson, Charles C. Kimball. *Elders*—Joseph Ditto, Franklin Edgerton, Reuben Sours, Hiram Johnson, Benjamin Bangs.

12. *Mileage of Commissioners. Elders*—Nathan Lane, Moses W. Dodd, Sarell Wood.

13. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Samuel M. Campbell, D. D., Alexander McA. Thorburn, W. Howell Taylor, George W. McMillan, William Young, W. Henry McGiffert. *Elders*—Frederick Starr, John P. Ammidon, James R. Davies, Elias Lyman, William Vandervolgen.

14. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Baruch B. Beckwith, John H. Walter, James Morton, John Kidd, Benjamin Graves, George A. Little. *Elders*—Henry Chase, William Hamilton, Waldo F. Brown, Jacob Y. Foulk, Truman A. Newton.

Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany. Ministers*—Henry E. Niles, William S. Taylor, Benjamin F. Sharp. *Elders*—Samuel Axtell, Alfred B. Gully.

2. *Synod of Utica. Ministers*—William D. Rosseter, Hugh B. Scott, Irvin I. St. John. *Elders*—Amos Davis, Samuel Crawford.

3. *Synod of Onondaga. Ministers*—Erasmus D. Willis, William Stoutenburg, D. Henry Palmer. *Elders*—Willis M. Sherwood, Manley Rogers. [469]

4. *Synod of Geneva. Ministers*—Job Pierson, John Noble, Martin P. Ormsby. *Elders*—Curtis J. Ripley, Joseph M. Holden.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna. Ministers*—Dwight Scovel, Thomas Nichols, Charles G. Clark. *Elders*—Lumen W. Capen, Samuel Smith.

6. *Synod of Genesee. Ministers*—James T. Hamlin, H. Augustus Smith, Alanson Scofield. *Elders*—John C. Farr, Philetus S. Church.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Joseph W. Hancock, Francis A. McCorkle, Andrew Parsons. *Elders*—John F. Ely, M. D., Charles Merwin.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Oren H. Newton, David Van Dyke, James A. Laurie. *Elders*—Theophilus W. Guy, Alexander Danskin.

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Henry M. Bacon, John H. Young, Thomas R. Easterday. *Elders*—Samuel Daggy, M. D., Richard Brown.

10. *Synod of Michigan. Ministers*—Samuel L. Merrell, Charles C. Kimball, John U. Guenther. *Elders*—Richard Steel, Samuel Anable.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve. Ministers*—O. H. Perry Deyo, Cornelius Earle, Charles S. Robinson, D. D. *Elders*—Daniel Nolton, John Hatmaker, M. D.

12. *Synod of Ohio. Ministers*—Burtis C. Megie, Edwin Black, Henry L. Dickerson. *Elders*—Alfred Beasley, M. D., Willis M. Sherwood.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati. Ministers*—James A. Darrah, Alanson D. Barber, Benjamin F. Willoughby. *Elders*—George W. Burnham, William Bradley.

14. *Synod of Indiana. Ministers*—Eli W. Taylor, Ariel McMaster, William C. Wisner, D. D. *Elders*—Reuben Sours, Walter R. Havens.

15. *Synod of Wabash. Ministers*—Marvin R. Vincent, John V. C. Nellis, Henry E. Woodcock. *Elders*—John P. Crosby, Titus Berry.

16. *Synod of Illinois. Ministers*—Eleroy Curtis, John McVey, Henry J. Crane. *Elders*—Joseph M. Holden, Jacob Y. Foulk.

17. *Synod of Peoria. Ministers*—William C. Smith, Daniel H. Evans, James B. Wilson. *Elders*—Zenas C. Crane, Alpheus Moore.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin. Ministers*—Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., James A. Carnahan, Alfred Bryant. *Elders*—Harry Chase, Stephen Torrey. [470]

19. *Synod of Iowa. Ministers*—Albert Erdman, William Aikman, John B. Pinney, LL.D. *Elders*—James R. Davies, Samuel Anable.

20. *Synod of Minnesota. Ministers*—John B. Richardson, Peleg R. Kinne, Henry Darling, D. D. *Elders*—Ezra Botsford, John F. Ely, M. D.

21. *Synod of Missouri. Ministers*—Andrew J. Fennell, Thomas A. Weed, George N. Todd. *Elders*—William D. Terbell, M. D., Caleb J. F. Smith.

22. *Synod of Tennessee. Ministers*—Immer N. Crittenden, Charles Hawley, D. D., Calvin Clark. *Elders*—Charles Merwin, Jirah I. Foote.

23. *Synod of Alta California. Ministers*—James F. Calkins, Samuel M. Campbell, D. D., Edward W. Hitchcock. *Elders*—John Anderson, Asa Howard.

The Records of the Synods, the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, the Overtures, and other papers from the Presbyteries were received and appropriately referred.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, with the vouchers, and found them correct; and they recommended that the account current be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. The report was adopted.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was read, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.

Pending the reading of the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reading of the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education was completed, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was presented and read. That portion of the report referring to the work among the *Freedmen* was referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Herrick Johnson, George A. Little, and Joel F. Bingham, with Messrs. Samuel D. Ward and George E. Warren. The remainder of the report was referred to the Standing Committee on Home Missions. [471]

The annual reports of the Presbyterian Publication Committee and of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House were read, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The annual report of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund was read, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, from the Presbytery of Watertown, expressing its "gratification in the prospect of a speedy reunion of the two great branches of our beloved Church," and recommended that the paper be put on file. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported Overture No. 2, being a memorial from the Synod of Wabash respecting a Sustentation Fund, with a recommendation. The report was accepted, and placed upon the docket. The same Committee reported Overture No. 3, from the Presbytery of Niagara, asking the General Assembly to change the plan of assessment for the expenses of the body; with the recommendation, that it is inexpedient and unnecessary to make any change in the mode of assessment. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Conference on *Reunion* with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church presented their report. The report was accepted, and referred to a Special *Committee*, consisting of Charles Hawley, D. D., George A. Lyon, D. D., William C. Wisner, D. D., Livingston M. Glover, D. D., and Rev. James A. Carnahan, with Messrs. John C. Farr, Fisher Howe, Lumen W. Capen, and Daniel W. Ingersoll, who were directed to report next Wednesday morning.

The annual reports of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and of the Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools, were read, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [472]

Monday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with until the closing session of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, and directed to be communicated immediately by telegraph:

Resolved, That this General Assembly sends fraternal and Christian salutations to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church holding its sessions in the City of Cincinnati, desiring and praying for the presence and benediction of the Head of the Church in all their deliberations and deliverances.

The Rev. Ennals J. Adams, of Charleston, S. C., by invitation, addressed the Assembly in relation to the position and needs of the Freedmen.

The Judicial Committee reported an appeal of Silas Miller from a decision of the Synod of Illinois as being in order, with the recommendation that it be taken up by the Assembly. The report was accepted, and action upon the case made the second order for this afternoon.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture respecting the appointment of the fifteenth day of April as a national fast-day, with the recommendation, that the Assembly take no action thereupon. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported a communication from the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City, and recommended that the same be printed in the Minutes. The report was adopted. The communication is as follows:

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
161 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK,
April 29, 1867.

REV. EDWIN F. HATFIELD, D. D., ROCHESTER, N. Y.:

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR: Feeling, as we do, the great temptations to which young men are exposed, who come as strangers to New York, we beg to ask your co-operation in our efforts to reach this class.

We may say, it is not our wish to invite young men to this city; for there is too often an excessive influx, which is the cause of much misery as well as vice. But, if they resolve to come, when found here, we desire, in all practicable ways, to direct and assist them.

The Association presents many attractions and offers many advantages to them. Our end is essentially the same as that of the Church; yet we believe our Association occupies a field, the wants of which no individual church can supply. [473]

May we ask you to bring the object, and the working of the Association, before the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which meets in Rochester on the 16th proximo?

We would suggest that clergymen give letters to young men who may be coming to this city, introducing them to the Association, so that they may be surrounded by Christian friends, and saved, it may be, from the many dangers to which they are constantly exposed in this city.

Very respectfully yours,
James I. Barr,
Corresponding Sec. Invitation Committee.

The same Committee reported the following Overture from the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and the Permanent Committees of Education, Home Missions, Publication, and Ministerial Relief:

To the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States:

We beg leave to call the attention of the General Assembly to the following statements with respect to the benevolent operations of the Church:

1. The various departments of Christian benevolence which have been undertaken by our Church are the most important objects within the whole range of charitable duties; not because they have been adopted by the General Assembly, but that they have been thus adopted because of their intrinsic importance.

The Divine plan is to save the world by the preaching of the Gospel and the extension of the Church. The Church is ordained of God; whatever promotes its growth and gives it power is to that extent worthy of confidence. So, whatever promotes the preaching of the Gospel in its purity, and brings it to bear on the greatest number of people, is entitled to generous support.

The cause of Foreign Missions aims to give the Gospel to all the destitute in foreign lands; that of Home Missions, to the destitute in our own land; that of Education, to prepare men to preach the Gospel; the Church Erection Board, to provide houses to preach in; and the Ministerial Relief Committee, to secure a comfortable support for the aged in their declining years, and for the disabled and their families; the Publication Committee, to supplement the work of the ministry by the aid of a sanctified literature; and the Sabbath-school Committee, to bring the Gospel to bear on the rising generation. These all constitute one simple, grand, and powerful whole, all centering in God's method of saving men. His plan must be the wisest and best possible. Organizations that propose to themselves some lower aim, or even such as aim to preach the Gospel to specific classes, as the outcasts, the papists, the sailors, the Jews, the foreigners, or the freedmen, may be praiseworthy in themselves, but must, of necessity, occupy a secondary place. [474]

2. The Church has lost much power over men, by allowing her benefactions to pass into the hands of other organizations, in which the Church is not recognized, and by which she obtains no credit, throwing away power which she should have wielded for her own growth. Hence, while the Church was never more liberal or active than now, the world sees it not, and infidels claim that she has lost her hold on the respect and confidence of men.

3. Our Church is endeavoring to prosecute her benevolent operations at the least possible expense for management and direction. The Education, Church Erection, Ministerial Relief, and Publication Committees employ only one Secretary each, and no agents. If voluntary and subordinate societies abound in agents, and keep the causes which they represent fresh and uppermost in the minds of pastors, and Presbyteries, and churches, they have a manifest advantage over our own causes, unless the pastors and Presbyteries will adopt the latter as theirs, and seek their advancement as such, and with special zeal. If they neglect them, there is no help. If

they fail to espouse them heartily, present their claims systematically, earnestly, and clearly, how can they have the generous aid which they deserve? The cause of Church Erection does not belong to its Board of Trustees; or those of Education, Home Missions, Publication, and Ministerial Relief to their respective Committees; they all belong to the Church, of which every Presbytery is a constituent part, and every session the organic and authorized agents. Shall all these causes, and all those that belong to us, knock at the doors of our Presbyteries as strangers and aliens, and their claims be admitted to attention by reluctant sufferance? Or shall they be adopted by the Presbyteries as their own, and welcomed as children in their Father's house?

We invoke the wisdom of the Assembly to devise methods to impress on the Presbyteries the measure of their obligation, as organizations, to foster, favor, and promote our own causes of benevolence, on account of their intrinsic importance; and because, through their agency, they can all be worked most economically and effectively, and in a manner to reflect great credit on the Church of God.

The Committee, in answer to the above Overture, recommended the adoption of a preamble and resolutions, as follows:

Whereas, The General Assembly has organized several Boards and Committees for evangelic action;

Whereas, In the prosecution of this, its proper work, the Church, unlike voluntary organizations, employs no agents to visit the churches and solicit funds; and,

Whereas, We have occasion to thank the Great Head of the Church for the amount which has already been accomplished through the spontaneous action of the churches in behalf of these several methods of Christian aggression;

Therefore, *Resolved*, 1. That all pastors and sessions be re[475]quested to arrange for systematic contributions in their respective churches once in a year, in aid of the several objects represented by the Boards and Committees, to the end that, so far as practicable, there may be uniformity of action throughout the entire body.

2. That the General Assembly, fully apprised of their incompetence to legislate authoritatively in any way in regard to that benevolence which is free-born, and emphatically disclaiming any policy which is rigidly narrow and sectarian, would respectfully request and advise all Presbyteries and churches to give the priority, so far as any distinction shall in any case be necessary, to those channels and agencies of Christian charity which the Church itself has organized; it being understood that the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions is included among them, as the organization for foreign evangelism which the General Assembly has adopted.

The report was adopted.

On the recommendation of the same Committee, it was

Resolved, That the several Permanent Committees and Boards of the Church be required to record, and report annually to the Assembly, the number of meetings which each member of said Committees and Boards has attended during the year.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which, after a brief discussion, was recommitted.

The appeal of Silas Miller from a decision of the Synod of Illinois, previously reported by the Judicial Committee, was taken up. Pending the consideration of the regularity of the appeal,

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following communication was received from the other General Assembly: [476]

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church holding its sessions in Cincinnati return fraternal and Christian salutations to the General Assembly holding its sessions in Rochester, praying and hoping for the presence of the Head of the Church in their midst, and the guidance of the Divine Spirit in all their deliberations and deliverances."

The Rev. James Denham, D. D., and the Rev. John Hall, D. D., duly accredited Delegates of the last General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The Committee of the last Assembly to appoint Delegates to the next General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland reported the appointment of the Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, and the Rev. Henry M. Field, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, as such Delegates; and further reported that they had requested the same brethren to serve as Delegates to the next General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The report was adopted, and the action of the Committee confirmed.

The Rev. Robert A. Browne, D. D., the Delegate of the last General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reports of the Standing Committees on Church Erection, and on Home Missions, were presented in connection and accepted.

The report of the Committee on Church Erection was adopted, and is as follows:

A change of plan, in the administration of any great Christian enterprise, is like a change of strategy in the midst of a campaign. It is sometimes necessary. It is generally difficult. It may be critical.

The last General Assembly gave to the Church Erection Board a new and broader commission, and put the cause itself to a new trial. The event has justified the change, and has amply proved the wisdom of the Assembly's action. The depression, amounting to despair, which caused not a few of our frontier churches to fold their hands in apathy, was broken, and they began to struggle once more to lay the foundations of a house for the Lord, in the confidence that help would come to them in their [477] extremity. Others, further advanced in their efforts at church building, instead of sending out their pastors with a roving commission to solicit assistance in our chief cities, turned directly to this new source of aid, which expressed the sympathy and fellowship of the whole Church toward its suffering members.

The number of applications made immediately upon the announcement of the new plan, and constantly increasing, is itself evidence that the need of this provision was most urgent, and that it was made not one moment too soon. The fact that one hundred churches of our name are houseless to-day calls on us, as a denomination, to follow the action of the last year with a yet stronger support of the Board, and a more earnest appeal to our congregations in its behalf. Having developed the need of our new and struggling churches, and having revived their hope, it behooves us to "prove the sincerity of our love;" "that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which we have."

The actual receipts for Church Erection during the past year have fallen short of the aim of the Board, and far short of the necessities of the churches: but they have, nevertheless, reached an amount which affords positive encouragement of success. The fact that $20,000 have been contributed within six months, for a substantially new enterprise, imperfectly appreciated, with no agencies, no appeals to sympathy, no influence whatever except the plain statement of facts touching the needs of the kingdom, this, in the view of your Committee, is a substantial guarantee, that the Church will ultimately meet the full demands of this most Christian cause.

It is difficult to introduce a new claim upon our Christian benevolence. It is more difficult to take up and make effective one which has suffered from prejudice as well as neglect. Many of our most liberal churches have been preoccupied by local enterprises, which tasked them to the utmost, and from which it was impossible to turn aside. Others had already engaged in schemes of church extension, through synodical or other agencies, closely allied with this, and could not immediately adjust their plans to ours. The sum received by the Church Erection Board does not probably represent one-third of the energy and devotion of the Church to this cause. Twice twenty thousand dollars, unreported by this Board, has doubtless been freely contributed by the strong among us for the building of churches and chapels for the weak. It can only be a question of time whether all these gifts for Church Erection shall flow through the safer, wiser, and more economical agency of the Assembly's Board. To have raised even so much, without any loss in expense, as a separate offering, at the outset of this new endeavor, appears to us to have been a marked success.

It is greatly to be desired, however, that the process of concentration, in this form of benevolence, should go forward as rapidly as possible. We are one body. No member can say to another, [478] "I have no need of thee." No part of the Church, widely scattered as it is, can be faithful to fellow-disciples while working independently, and only for near results. Justice to those themselves who give, justice to those who are in need, justice to those called to administer this important trust, requires that all our sympathies and aid should flow impartially to the points of utmost want, the Church over, and be distributed with a comprehensive equity. The sooner this more generous method is accepted and made universal among us, the sooner will the burdens of our poorer brethren be lifted off, and every household of faith have a home and an altar of its own.

Your Committee would especially recommend that, in all cases in which churches or chapels are being built by private presbyterial or synodical aid, such property be made inalienable from the uses of Presbyterian worship, or its reversion secured to the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

It seems worthy of distinct suggestion, that the elders of our Church should give to this cause of Church Erection a particular attention. First, for the general reason that many pastors are hampered while they stand alone in the presentation of new objects, however urgent, by a fear lest they overburden their churches by these demands of benevolence. The cause often passes into neglect, through the (modest) diffidence of ministers, when one hearty, zealous word in its behalf, from an office-bearer or member of the Church, would give it at once its just prominence and full acceptance with the people.

There is another reason why our elders should inform and interest themselves in behalf of Church Erection. Of all our enterprises it is the one which commends itself to the sound sense of business men. It has no pathetic side. It affords no affecting incidents such as move in their recital the sympathies of an audience. Its strength is in its bare necessity. Its appeal is to the good judgment of men. Its demand is that of common prudence. Its value is found in the stability and permanence which it gives to church extension in every form. It is the end of waste. It is the beginning of order and firm growth. Men of sense easily perceive that the labors of the best home missionary must be in large part thrown away, until the people to whom he ministers have a house of worship of their own. Again and again have congregations been gathered at great expense and toil, only to be scattered afterward for want of some fixed and attractive dwelling place. It is a question whether it would not be a wise rule in the management of Home Missions, to commission no minister to labor statedly in our new settlements, who could not go forth with the pledge that one third of the cost of a church building should be provided for the people that he should gather, so soon as they themselves should provide the other two thirds. All experience shows that liberal and prompt outlay judiciously made is the best economy. It is difficult to say which is most unwise and wasteful; to expect the preacher to plant Christian institu[479]tions without a church, or to leave a church once built without a ministry. It should be borne in mind that means contributed to this work become immediately an investment, and bring early and large returns. They act partly as a help, and partly as a stimulus. Five hundred dollars donated by this Board calls forth perhaps five times that amount from the church itself which receives this aid. In most benevolent enterprises, there is a clear outlay for all that is accomplished. So much cost for so much done. Here the result is cumulative. It may be threefold or fivefold as great as the expenditure. The Congregational denomination of this country have contributed, first and last, about two hundred thousand dollars for Church Erection; and for this they already show a property in church buildings, thus erected, of a million and a half of dollars. Those sister denominations, which have spent in the State of Missouri alone $23,000 for Church Erection the past year—more in that one commonwealth than we have contributed for all the country—have been wise in their generation. When the practical men of our churches treat this, their cause, with the same sound judgment which they use in the affairs of this world, it will require little presentation from the pulpit. It needs only to be fairly looked at in its relations to the whole work of evangelization in the land, to receive the strong assent and ready support of every just and Christian man among us.

Your Standing Committee would suggest that the admirable report of the Assembly's Board be as widely circulated as possible among our churches, and that the best sympathies and energies of the members of this present Assembly be pledged, to the maintenance and advancement of this enterprise of the Church, at this most critical period of its history. To suffer this cause to flag would be to impede and embarrass the whole work of Home Evangelization. To multiply its resources and power is to invigorate every Christian institution, and change hopes and promises and obligations into permanent realities of blessing.

Your Committee submit the following resolutions, covering the special subjects of interest in the annual report, and recommend their adoption.

In view of the fact, that one hundred churches in connection with this Assembly are now without any houses of worship of their own, while new churches equally destitute are continually being formed by the labors of our Home Missionaries,

1. *Resolved*, That it is our duty as a Christian denomination to contribute to the cause of Church Erection the sum of one hundred thousand dollars during the year now opened.

2. *Resolved*, That the pastor, or stated supply, of each church connected with this General Assembly be earnestly desired, to present the subject of Church Erection distinctly to his congregation in a discourse, and to take up a collection in behalf of this cause, on the second Sabbath of December next, or on the nearest possible Sabbath to that date.

3. *Resolved*, That this cause be especially commended to the [480] attention of the elders of the churches, some of whom, in the absence of pastors, are peculiarly responsible for the welfare of these enterprises of the Church, and all of whom have it in their power to encourage their ministers in urging the new claims of this cause upon those congregations which are not yet aware of its critical necessities.

4. *Resolved*, That, as an encouragement to churches which have unpaid loans from the Permanent Fund to discharge their indebtedness, the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be authorized to change such outstanding loans to donations in part, as was done prior to August, 1866.

5. *Resolved*, That the vacancies now occurring in the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be filled by the election of the following persons:

Messrs. George W. Lane, Nathan Lane, and John P. Crosby, Esq.

Mr. William A. Booth having tendered his resignation as a member of the Board of Trustees, we recommend to the Assembly that his resignation be not accepted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Communications were received from the Rev. J. George Butler, Delegate of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States; from the Rev. George A. Tewksbury, Delegate of the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine; from the Rev. Aldace Walker, Delegate of the General Convention of Vermont; and from the Rev. Solo A. Dwinnell, Delegate of the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The Rev. Ebenezer G. Parsons, Delegate of the General Association of New Hampshire, and the Rev. Robert G. Vermilye, D. D., Delegate of the General Association of Connecticut, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee of Conference on Reunion with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, presented their report, which was accepted and unanimously adopted.

The report of the Committee of Conference is as follows:

The Committee, appointed by the last General Assembly to confer with a similar Committee of the other Assembly on the [481] desirableness and practicability of reuniting the bodies which they severally represent, would respectfully report:

That, in the discharge of the duty assigned them, the two Committees assembled in the City of New York, Wednesday, the 20th of February, 1867, and, after organizing in their respective places of appointment, met in joint session for conference and prayer.

Their meetings continued to a late hour on Friday evening, February 22d, when the Committees adjourned to meet again, in the same city, on the first day of May.

Reassembling at that time, they continued their conferences till Tuesday the 7th of May, when they finally adjourned. The circumstances, in which the Committees held their first meeting, were so peculiar as to demand a special mention, as they were fitted to produce an unusual sobriety.

The Chairmen of both Committees as originally constituted were absent; one, the Rev. Dr. Brainerd, had been translated to that world, where all the distinctions of Christian discipleship which exist on the earth are lost in the harmony of heaven. The other, the Rev. Dr. Krebs, was disabled by severe illness from all participation in our conferences, waiting for that change to come which will unite him to the great company of Christian ministers in the kingdom of God.

All the meetings of the Committees were distinguished by a degree of courtesy and unanimity, which was more than common. Composed of men of decided individuality, representing divers interests and sections, they have discussed every question, many of them of admitted delicacy and difficulty, with the utmost frankness, without one word or expression of any kind ever to be regretted by Christian brethren who felt the grave responsibilities of their position.

The result of their conferences is contained in the following document, adopted in Joint Committee with remarkable unanimity.

Proposed Terms of Reunion between the two Branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

The Joint Committee of the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, appointed for the purpose of conferring on the desirableness and practicability of uniting these two bodies, deeply impressed with the responsibility of the work assigned us, and having earnestly sought Divine guidance, and patiently devoted ourselves to the investigation of the questions involved, agree in presenting the following for the consideration, and, if they see fit, for the adoption, of the two General Assemblies:

Believing that the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom would be promoted by healing our divisions; that practical union would greatly augment the efficiency of the whole Church for the accomplishment of its divinely-appointed work; that the main [482] causes producing division have either wholly passed away, or become in a great degree inoperative; and that two bodies, bearing the same name, adopting the same Constitution, and claiming the same corporate rights, cannot be justified by any but the most imperative reasons in maintaining separate and, in some respects, rival organizations; and regarding it as both just and proper that a Reunion should be effected by the two Churches, as independent bodies and on equal terms; we propose the following terms and recommendations, as suited to meet the demands of the case:

1. The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted "as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures;" and its fair, historical sense, as it is accepted by the two bodies in opposition to Antinomianism and Fatalism on the one hand, and to Arminianism and Pelagianism on the other, shall be regarded as the sense in which it is received and adopted; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall continue to be approved as containing the principles and rule of our polity.

2. All the ministers and churches embraced in the two bodies shall be admitted to the same standing in the united body which they may hold in their respective connections up to the consummation of the Union; and all the churches connected with the united body, not thoroughly Presbyterian in their organization, shall be advised to perfect their organization as soon as is permitted by the highest interests to be consulted; no other such churches shall be received; and such persons alone shall be chosen Commissioners to the General Assembly as are eligible according to the Constitution of the Church.

3. The boundaries of the several Presbyteries and Synods shall be adjusted by the General Assembly of the united Church.

4. The official records of the two branches of the Church for the period of separation shall be preserved and held as making up the one history of the Church, and no rule or precedent which does not stand approved by both the bodies shall be of any authority until re-established in the united body.

5. The corporate rights, now held by the two General Assemblies and by their Boards and Committees, shall, as far as practicable, be consolidated and applied for their several objects as defined by law.

6. There shall be one set of Committees or Boards for Home and Foreign Missions, and the other religious enterprises of the Church, which the churches shall be encouraged to sustain, though left free to cast their contributions into other channels, if they desire to do so.

7. As soon as practicable after the Union shall be effected, the General Assembly shall reconstruct and consolidate the several Permanent Committees and Boards which now belong to the two Assemblies, in such a manner as to represent, as far as [483] possible, with impartiality, the views and wishes of the two bodies constituting the united Church.

8. When it shall be ascertained that the requisite number of Presbyteries of the two bodies have approved the terms of Union as hereinafter provided for, the two General Assemblies shall each appoint a Committee of seven, none of them having an official relation to either the Board or the Committee of Publication, who shall constitute a Joint Committee, whose duty it shall be to revise the catalogues of the existing publications of the two Churches, and to make out a list from them of such books and tracts as shall be issued by the united Church; and any catalogue thus made out, in order to its adoption, shall be approved by at least five members of each Committee.

9. If, at any time after the Union has been effected, any of the Theological Seminaries, under the care and control of the General Assembly, shall desire to put themselves under synodical control, they shall be permitted to do so at the request of their Boards of Direction; and those Seminaries which are independent in their organization shall have the privilege of putting themselves under ecclesiastical control, to the end that, if practi-

cable, a system of ecclesiastical supervision of such institutions may ultimately prevail through the entire united Church.

10. It shall be regarded as the duty of all our judicatories, ministers, and people in the united Church to study the things which make for peace, and to guard against all needless and offensive references to the causes that have divided us; and, in order to avoid the revival of past issues by the continuance of any usage in either branch of the Church that has grown out of our former conflicts, it is earnestly recommended to the lower judicatories of the Church, that they conform their practice in relation to all such usages, as far as consistent with their convictions of duty, to the general custom of the Church prior to the controversies that resulted in the separation.

11. The terms of the Reunion shall be of binding force, if they shall be ratified by three-fourths of the Presbyteries connected with each branch of the Church within one year after they shall have been submitted to them for approval.

12. The terms of the Reunion shall be published by direction of the General Assemblies of 1867, for the deliberate examination of both branches of the Church, and the Joint Committee shall report to the General Assemblies of 1868 any modification of them they may deem desirable, in view of any new light that may have been received during the year.

13. It is recommended that the Hon. Daniel Haines, and the Hon. Henry W. Green, LL.D., of New Jersey, Daniel Lord, LL.D., and Theodore W. Dwight, LL.D., of New York, and Hon. William Strong and Hon. George Sharswood, LL.D., of Pennsylvania, be appointed by the General Assemblies a *Committee to investigate all questions of property* and of vested rights, as they may stand related to the matter of Reunion, and [484] this Committee shall report to the Joint Committee as early as the first of January, 1868.

14. It is evident that, in order to adapt our ecclesiastical system to the necessities and circumstances of the united Church as a greatly enlarged and widely extended body, some changes in the Constitution will be required. The Joint Committee, therefore, request the two General Assemblies to instruct them in regard to the preparation of an additional article on this subject, to be reported to the Assemblies of 1868.

Signed by order of the Joint Committee.

CHARLES C. BEATTY, *Chairman.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK, May 7th, 1867.

Leaving their report with the General Assemblies and the ministers and churches of their denomination throughout the land, your Committee cannot disregard the providential auspices under which their recommendations await decision. The present is thought to be a favorable time, now that many questions of former controversy have lost their interest, for adopting a magnanimous policy suited to the necessities of our country and the world. The Presbyterian Church has a history of great renown. It has been intimately associated with civil and religious liberty in both hemispheres. Its republican and representative character, the parity of its clergy, the simplicity of its order, the equity of its administration, its sympathy with our institutions, its ardent patriotism in all stages of our history, its flexible adaptation to our heterogeneous population, its liberal support of schools, colleges, and seminaries designed for general education and theological culture, its firm and steadfast faith in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom, and that by means of revealed truth and the special effusions of the Holy Spirit in distinction from all trust in human arts and devices, all unite to promise, if we are wise and faithful, a future for the Presbyterian Church in these United States greater and better than all the past. Amid the changes which have occurred around us, we are confident that nothing true and good will ever recede or decay; and it becomes all those who love the same faith, order, and worship, abounding in love and hope, to pray that God would count them worthy of their calling, that they may fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in them, and they in Him, according to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Signed by order of the Committee.

WILLIAM ADAMS, *Chairman.*

NEW YORK, May 7th, 1867.

The report of the Special Committee to whom the above report was referred is as follows: [485]

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Special Committee, appointed by the last General Assembly to confer with a similar Committee on the desirableness and practicability of reuniting the bodies which they severally represent, would respectfully report:

That they have given the document committed to them a careful consideration, in view of its grave importance, and the manifold interests it involves in its relations to our own Church and the progress of the kingdom of Christ in the earth. It presents a basis for the proposed Reunion, which, if the two Assemblies so order, is to be submitted to the deliberate examination of both branches of the Church for one year, subject to such modifications as may appear necessary or desirable within that period. It leaves the General Assemblies of 1868 free to act with reference to these terms of Reunion, in whole or in part, as providential signs may indicate; and, if advisable, to submit them to the constitutional and final action of the Presbyteries. Ample opportunity is thus afforded for a full and deliberate consideration of the whole subject, in all its bearings, as they shall affect local interests or the well-being of the entire Church.

For this and kindred reasons, your Committee conclude it was not the intention of this body, in referring to them this proposed basis of Reunion, that its several articles should be discussed at this time and place; and yet they cannot withhold their conviction, expressed in these general terms, that results have already been reached full of promise and hope; that, whatever concessions have been made, they only indicate how near the two parts of the divided Church have approached each other; that nothing more and nothing less than Christian charity would dictate has been yielded; and that, in the adjustment of any difficulties or differences, a proper regard has been preserved for the honor and rights of the respective bodies, to which the work of their Joint Committee is now submitted. The remarkable unanimity with which these initiatory proceedings have been concluded, after a thorough and frank discussion of the basis of Union, is full of encouragement; and whatever may be the ultimate result, much has already been accomplished for the healing of our divisions, and the promotion of peace and good-will in the Presbyterian body.

Impressed with these considerations, and gratefully recognizing therein the guiding providence of God in the successive stages of this work of concord, and especially the spirit of wisdom and love given to His servants in their several conferences, we do recommend, that this Assembly approve of the whole action of its Special Committee as declared in their report, and that the same Committee be continued for the purposes for which it was constituted.

There is a single point on which the Joint Committee ask instructions from the two General Assemblies. It relates to the changes in representation, etc., which will be required to adapt [486] our ecclesiastical system to the necessities and circumstances of the united Church. We would recommend, that it be left to the Joint Committee to examine carefully the whole subject, and suggest such changes in the Constitution as in their wisdom they may deem requisite.

It is further recommended, that the report of the Joint Committee be published under the authority of the General Assembly, for general distribution among our ministers and churches.

It is also recommended, that the Assembly appoint the several gentlemen designated by the Joint Committee as legal advisers, and that, in case of the inability of any one of them to serve, the Committee have power to fill his place.

It is indicative, we would believe, of the temper of this Assembly, the largest during our history of thirty years since the separation, that your Committee, though representing the extremes of our territory, and even the lingering memories of the conflict which culminated in the division, are of one mind in desiring the speedy and permanent Reunion of our beloved Church. It is but reasonable to anticipate, that the same spirit will characterize the action of the other Assembly, in the recollection of the fraternal, not to say magnanimous, advances made one year ago, and which gave rise to present measures for Reunion, and the hope increasingly and fondly cherished in the great Presbyterian household. Other members of that renowned family, than those represented in the two Assemblies now in session, at home and across the sea, are stirred in sympathy at the goodly prospect. The friends of Christian Union everywhere claim an interest in the completion of our work, so happily begun, as another sign of the predicted day when all Christ's people shall be one, keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was taken up. Pending its consideration,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Messrs. George W. Lane, Nathan Lane, and John P. Crosby, Esq., were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve for three years.

The Rev. Patrick Fairbairn, D. D., and the Rev. James Wells, the Delegates, duly accredited, of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator. [487]

A communication was received from the Rev. Edward D. Yeomans, D. D., one of the Delegates of the General Assembly of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church. E. A. Raymond, Esq., the other Delegate, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom were referred the fifteenth annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication, and the thirteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, having carefully examined these documents, would respectfully report, that the progress which is indicated by the report of the Publication Committee, in the work to which they were assigned, is truly gratifying and encouraging.

From being an experiment of somewhat doubtful success, it has become a fixed and permanent fact, and has been relieved of certain limitations previously imposed, so that the Committee may now issue religious books and tracts of any character, which may be demanded by the pastors and members of our churches, and by our Sabbath-schools. Thus the way is prepared for it to become the source of supply of the religious literature demanded by our denomination. We should aim to make it, in the largest possible sense, the Publication House of the Presbyterian Church. To this end it should receive the patronage and support of our ministers and laymen. From it clergymen, as far as possible, should replenish their libraries, and our lay brethren furnish religious reading for their families. In this way it should be sustained and encouraged and enlarged in its operation.

While we are much gratified with the valuable additions it has been enabled to make to its published works during the past year, we trust that this work has only just begun, and that, in a short time, it will be enabled to add to its list such a number and variety of works, and to afford them at such prices, as will be an inducement to those belonging to our branch of the Church, and to many without, to purchase from that source their needed or coveted supply.

This Publication House is a child of our own creating, and we are under the most imperative obligations, as Christian men, adequately to sustain it and provide for its future development. [488]

It should be enabled to keep a reasonably large and well-assorted stock of publications on hand, not only for sale to its patrons, but also for gratuitous distribution to those who are unable to purchase. Its tracts and standard volumes should be sown broadcast among the poor of our churches. For this, means must be had, money must be provided: and your Committee see no way in which this can be done, but by giving diligent heed to our collections for this purpose. Notwithstanding all that previous Assemblies have said on this subject, these collections continue to be entirely too small, and many of our churches do not take them at all. This condition of things must be remedied, or this vital interest of our Church must prove comparatively a failure. Will not pastors and elders see to it that an annual collection is taken in their churches for this purpose?

So, also, we must look to this same source for a complete and perfected literature for our Sabbath-schools. This is a necessity greatly felt by our churches, and for the lack of which we have been subjected to the grossest impositions, by which hundreds of volumes have found their way into our Sabbath-school libraries which are entirely unfit for perusal by our children and youth. This can only be remedied by furnishing the right kind of literature for ourselves; and we are gratified to know that our Committee stand ready, from their own publications, and from carefully selected publications of other houses, to fill orders to any amount for books for Sabbath-school libraries. It seems to us that our own churches should be instructed and exhorted to look in this direction for their supply of Sabbath-school books.

We are gratified to learn that the attention of our Committee has been turned to the wants of our German population, and we have no doubt that they are prepared to do all that, under the circumstances of the case, is wise and best upon the subject.

The report before us refers to our *Presbyterian Monthly*, and asks what directions the Assembly will give concerning it? It seems that its circulation is exceedingly limited, and its cost far exceeds the receipts from its patrons. Shall it be discontinued, or shall it be modified?

It was established in accordance with a felt need by our ministers and churches; and, in the opinion of your Committee, that need is as great now as it was then. We believe the principal difficulty with this magazine to be, that those who conduct it have attempted to make it accomplish too much, and thus have failed to popularize it. A pamphlet of only twenty-four pages cannot successfully serve as a monthly organ for six of our Permanent Committees. The little, that can be crowded into the space allotted to each Committee, cannot continue to gain the attention and excite the interest of the churches. Such an arrangement produces a small fragmentary pamphlet, without unity of design or symmetry of execution. Nor is there any necessity that this should be the case. What need is there that our Foreign Missionary Committee should occupy any considerable portion of this [489] magazine? Is it necessary that the *Missionary Herald* should be supplemented with four meagre pages in the *Presbyterian Monthly?* The *Missionary Herald* is our organ for the Foreign Missionary work, and our Foreign Missionary Committee in their report urge its increased circulation; and why not concentrate our efforts in that direction, instead of attempting to thrust upon our churches a duplicate of four pages in our *Presbyterian Monthly?*

We need a monthly mainly for our work of Home Evangelization, which should be under the control of a single mind, and filled with materials of the deepest and most thrilling interest, gathered, according to the discretion of the editor, from the several departments of our home work.

A monthly periodical, in order to be sustained, must interest its readers, and to this end it must be filled with facts and incidents tersely and vividly stated, so that they may affect the heart as well as inform the mind. Prosy essays and sermonic exhortations should be scrupulously rejected—they will kill any periodical.

We recommend that our *Presbyterian Monthly* be put into the hands of our Publication Committee, to be edited and conducted substantially upon the principles herein indicated—that it be numbered with their publications for which they are responsible, and that we pledge ourselves to sustain them in this work.

Your Committee would suggest that it be afforded as cheaply as possible, and that every inducement and facility be held out to secure its circulation.

It is probably too much to expect that such a periodical will sustain itself; but we believe it will make up the deficiency a hundred-fold by the increased liberality of our Churches.

We are gratified to learn that the *Church Psalmist* still maintains a firm hold upon the affections of the churches, as is evinced by its introduction into new congregations and the sale during the past year of nearly nine thousand copies.

We also rejoice at the success of our *Social Hymn and Tune Book.* It is fast becoming a great favorite with our churches. In those excellent qualities which eminently fit it for the use it was intended to subserve, it is unsurpassed by any similar work.

It is also recommended that the following members of the Permanent Committee, whose term expires the present month, be re-elected, namely:

Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Mr. Alexander Whilldin, Mr. Frank L. Bodine, and Rev. George F. Wiswell, D. D.

Your Committee most heartily approve of the doings of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, as set forth in their report.

They would recommend the re-election of the following Trustees, whose term of office expires during the present sessions of the Assembly, namely: John C. Farr, Esq.; Charles S. Wurts, M. D.; Rev. Daniel March, D. D.; Rev. William T. Eva, and Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.

They would also recommend that Rev. Albert Barnes and Mr. Alexander Whilldin be elected Trustees, to serve the unexpired [490] term, one year from this time, of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Matthias W. Baldwin, Esq., deceased.

The Special Committee on the work among the Freedmen presented their report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, to whom was referred an Overture from the Synod of Cincinnati, asking the Assembly "to direct the Permanent Committee of Home Missions to continue the appropriation (under certain specified conditions) made for the support of ministers, in all cases where they are entitled to such support, after the relation of such ministers and the churches they are serving are dissolved," report, recommending that the Overture be answered in the negative.

The plan proposed requires a radical change in the Constitution of the Committee, and in its modes of operation.

The Committee are instructed to aid the feeble churches as such, and not to support the missionaries.

Should any missionary, however, leave his field of labor before the expiration of the term for which he has been commissioned, and enter upon another, he can be commissioned again by the same method, and on the same principles as at the first.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools, having carefully considered the subjects assigned to them by the General Assembly, would respectfully report as follows:

There can be no doubt that, in the multiplicity of absorbing interests demanding the notice of the churches, a cause, requiring so much patience in its consideration, and so much wisdom in its management, as the Sabbath-school cause, might easily be passed by, with the indifference of those who are not intelligent concerning its need and its power, and with the indolence of those who are.

The instruction of children is the last attainment and the highest reach of Christian grace. Never, until the Church has come to leisure for serious study, and to advanced spirituality in experience, can those who are its natural leaders be prevailed upon candidly to estimate and provide for the wants of the little ones [491] in the fold. The best proof of high civilization is found in the toy of a child. Not one has ever been discovered in the excavations of Rome; not one was ever found among the ruins of Pompeii.

It has been reserved for the glory of the Christian Church to seek the happiness and the spiritual good of the babes and sucklings, out of whose mouth God has ordained praise. And yet, so little is this appreciated, that its utterance even now is likely to fall on many of our best minds as the mere extravagance of a harmless enthusiasm; not to be rebuked, indeed, for it is so amiable; but not to be heeded as a philosophical fact, for it is considered extreme.

We mark with much pleasure the endeavors made by our Permanent Committee, during this first year of its existence, in the direction of the literature which is passing into the hands of the youth of our congregations. The criticisms published in the monthly magazine are very valuable, and, if continued, will be of essential help to those who are commissioned to select books for our libraries

The columns of statistics in the printed Minutes are already so crowded, that it seems impossible to grant their request for additional space, in reporting teachers and officers as distinct from pupils. We hope that it will be understood among the congregations, that the annual reports are intended to include all the legitimate members of the schools, officers, teachers, and scholars of both church and mission schools.

No one can fail to observe the disabilities under which the Permanent Committee has been laboring during the past twelve months. It has had no Secretary to act as its medium of intercourse with the churches, and no positive constituency whatever to extend to it countenance, or furnish it decorous support. These brethren seem to us to merit praise for having had the courage even to attempt to accomplish any thing whatever in such circumstances.

But surely it cannot be expected, that any organization like this can hold its proper place with due dignity, or be in any degree effective in its designated work, under embarrassments so multiplied. The Committee has done organically all it could, and done it well. But there can be no wisdom, and there is no generosity, in continuing even in existence a Permanent Committee, which is obliged to exhaust its efforts upon mere compilation of statistics from the printed Minutes, or look for its necessarily accruing expenses to the unauthorized assessment of a few "residents in Central and Western New York." To be sure, the General Assembly owes its sincere thanks to those friends of the Sabbath-school cause who have willingly responded thus far to the call: but the great denomination it represents can ill afford to permit any one of its organized Committees to make persistently this mendicant show for itself, or send out its official circulars on such a pitiful errand. We ought to do more, or do less at once. [492]

Hence all the members of the Standing Committee are disposed to heed, on the instant, the request already made to the Assembly, that a Corresponding Secretary should be appointed, bearing the same relation to this branch of our benevolent effort, as those officially recognized in the departments of Home Missions, Education, and Publication bear to the respective Committees which they now serve. This Secretary ought to be clothed with the requisite authority, to go officially among the congregations, as the honored representative of the Church at large; and should receive a salary adequate for his competent support, so as to be able to devote his time and his gifts to the important work assigned him.

If it be asked, What need is there for such a Secretary? we reply, first, there is all the need for a Secretary that there is for such a Committee, and the more need now, in that the Committee has been organized; and we reply, second, that there is all the need for this Secretary and Committee in our denomination that there is in any.

If it be asked, Why not continue to do our Sabbath-school work in connection with co-operative societies? we reply that already have our brethren of every name deserted us to all intents and purposes. The Baptist, the Episcopal, the Reformed Dutch, the Methodist, and in New England the Congregational Churches, have in turn established and now support each a denominational Sunday-School Union, retaining meanwhile their position in others merely to control their publications and activities. And, furthermore, it ought to be remembered that the present question is not concerning the institution of an organization, but concerning its efficiency. Our Committee is already established; the question is: Shall it attempt to do any of its prescribed work?

Moved by considerations like these, the Standing Committee would recommend at once, that the request laid before the Assembly be granted, and that the Permanent Committee be authorized to appoint a Corresponding Secretary; but we find ourselves embarrassed by some other complications which force us to hesitate.

It is doubtful whether all of our churches are ready to receive so suddenly, as a denominational charge, the entire Sabbath-school Missionary operations which we have been accustomed hitherto to do in co-operation with others; whether the Permanent Committee itself has already completed and compacted its new organization, sufficiently for it to assume the responsibility of an undertaking so extensive as this promises to be; whether the other official Committees of our Church have adjusted their relative duties so nicely, as to be prepared to welcome at once into a dignified and acknowledged equality this one, which in many of its characteristics will be new; whether the best man for the desired Secretaryship could be found on call, or, at any rate, could be selected wisely, before the Committee should by experience have grown somewhat acquainted with its own essential wants; whether, in case of an organic connection in frontier work with [493] the remaining Committees, the consideration of another and more central location, and consequent reorganization. of the Permanent Committee might not be forced upon the Assembly; and whether a measure, so important as this, would command the cordial consent and respect of those among the most prudent of our counsellors, to whom we are wont to look in all exigencies, at a time when their minds are heavily occupied with questions of great gravity, demanding instantaneous decision, and embracing the whole polity of the Church.

These are among the first and most pressing reasons, which constrain the Standing Committee to withhold their recommendation, at the present time, concerning any new appointment of a salaried Secretary. Still they feel bound to receive, with great consideration, the request preferred by those in whose matured conclusions they would be glad fully to coincide. And they feel free to express the confident hope, that the history of the year to come will have so far made the way clear, that another Assembly will experience none of the hindrances which embarrass this.

With a view to help forward a result so much to be desired, the Committee avow it as their conviction, that the precarious support now permitted to this Permanent Committee ought to be established on a firm basis; the countenance extended to it ought to be open and full; its work ought to be urged forward, and at its disposal ought to be placed all necessary means for its efficiency, so that it may become a thoroughly organized agency in all that belongs to the Sabbath-school cause.

The Standing Committee therefore recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the congregations and Sabbath-schools within our bounds be invited and urged to make generous contributions, during the present year, in behalf of the general work represented in the plan upon which this Permanent Committee was established.

2. That this organization be recommended cordially to the sympathy and co-operation of all our churches, as our agency in the various branches of Sabbath-school work; and that they be earnestly requested to transmit their funds through its hands.

3. That the Permanent Committee be instructed to proceed at once to their legitimate work, disbursing the moneys they receive in the several ways opened to them in the providence of God; the establishment of new schools, and the succoring of those which are feeble; the sustaining of missionaries commissioned by the Home Missionary Committee; the supplying of libraries in connection with the Publication Committee, and all the kinds of religious work among the children, especially in our own land, to which their wisdom shall point with hopes of success.

4. That the Permanent Committee be instructed to elect at once a Treasurer, whose duty it shall be each year, under its direction, to report receipts and expenditures of all funds intrusted to them to the General Assembly.

In laying this burden upon the Permanent Committee, we feel [494] some little reluctance, but we trust that those brethren, who have already shown themselves so worthy of the confidence reposed in them, will accept it as a labor of love, in the hope that, by the end of another year, when their work shall become settled, their need become definite, and their resources become respectable, the Assembly will be ready to place this Committee on an equal foundation with the others.

It only remains for us further to recommend that Rev. Samuel M. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Charles P. Bush, Rev. Marvin R. Vincent, and Mr. Josiah P. Bailey be elected to membership in the Permanent Committee to serve three years; also that Mr. Edward Bristol, of Buffalo, be elected for the same class in place of Samuel Field, Esq., and Mr. Andrew A. Smith, of Brooklyn, be elected for one year in place of Mr. Ralph Wells, who has declined to serve.

The First Presbyterian church of the City of Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly; and the session of that church were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for that meeting.

The Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Onondaga, Geneva, Susquehanna, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Cincinnati, Wabash, Peoria, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Missouri, without exception, and those of the Synods of Western Reserve and Ohio, with exceptions, which were duly recorded, were, on the recommendation of the respective examining Committees, approved as far as written. The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Indiana, Tennessee, and Alta California reported, that those Records have not been forwarded to this General Assembly. The report was accepted, and the Committee discharged. The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Illinois presented a report, which was accepted and put on the docket.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was accepted, and placed on the docket.

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and united with a large number of their fellow-Christians in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After the service, adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M. [495]

Friday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, which, with thanks for their laborious and faithful services, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That they have received, for the Commissioners' Fund		$7130.69
" " " " " Contingent Fund		748.91
		$7879.60
The bills of necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners amount to	$6046.00	
Contingent expenses	1400.00	
		$7446.00
Leaving a balance of		433.60

Two Presbyteries only have failed to pay anything to the Assembly's Fund, namely, Osage and San Francisco.

Eight Presbyteries have only paid enough to secure the Minutes of the Assembly, namely, Champlain, Chenango, Harrisburgh, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Chariton.

Fourteen have paid but a part of their assessment, namely, St. Lawrence, Oswego, Utica, Onondaga, Cortland, Tioga, Lyons, Buffalo, Genesee, North River, Rockaway, Philadelphia Fourth, Huron, and Franklin.

Your Committee would respectfully call the attention of the Assembly to the custom, followed by certain Presbyteries, of withholding a part of their assessment, in order to secure in full the traveling expenses of their own Commissioners, thereby showing an unwillingness to take the risk of their fellow-members on this point. The generosity and fairness of this procedure may well be questioned. By the promptness of the great majority of the Presbyteries, none have suffered in this instance by the policy referred to.

Your Committee do not understand that inability to meet the rule of the Assembly is offered as a justification. They hope none of their successors will be obliged, in the discharge of their duty, to refer to a matter so disagreeable.

The Committee recommend that the assessment of six cents per member be continued for the next year.

The Committee recommend that the Assembly appropriate from the surplus funds an amount sufficient to cover the necessary traveling expenses of the Committee on Reunion for the year past, and also for the present year.

The Committee recommend, that the necessary traveling expenses of such of the Commissioners as are entitled thereto be paid in full. [496]

The appeal of Silas Miller against a decision of the Synod of Illinois was taken up.

It having appeared that the appeal was regularly taken, the sentence appealed from, the reasons assigned by the appellant for his appeal, and the whole record of the proceedings of the Synod of Illinois, including the testimony, and the reasons of their decision, were read.

The further consideration of the case was then suspended during the remainder of this session.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial suggesting a change in the order of exercises in the churches, with the recommendation that no action be taken upon the subject. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported a paper respecting German Missions, the addition of a German member to the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, and the establishment of a German College, which was referred to the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 24th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Reports were received from the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; the Rev. Herrick Johnson, to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church; the Rev. Edwin A. Bulkley, to the General Convention of Vermont; the Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., to the General Association of Connecticut; the Rev. Francis S. McCabe, to the General Association of Massachusetts; and the Rev. George I. King, D. D., to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; all of which were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A report was received from the Rev. Henry Little, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which was accepted, and referred to a Special Committee consisting of the Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., the Rev. George A. Lyon, D. D., and Mr. Joseph Ditto.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture, asking "whether a vote of a session entitles a person to the privileges of the Church, who is not baptized and has not made a public profession of faith?" They recommended the following answer: [497]

The vote of a session does not entitle an unbaptized person to the privileges of the Church, for the reason that baptism, as our Confession of Faith declares, (Chap. XXVIII., sec. 1.) is declared to be "a sacrament for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible Church."

The public profession of one's faith may, for sufficient reasons, as our Directory of Worship allows, be omitted; but the exceptional case does not respect baptism, which precedes the admission of the party to the Lord's Table. The vote of the session to this effect must be conditioned upon the baptism, and can in no case be a substitute for the sacrament itself.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported a memorial, asking for certain action of the General Assembly to prevent the division and destruction of our churches in the State of Iowa by the agency of Congregationalists.

The Committee recommended the following answer:

That it is inexpedient to take such action as the memorialist desires, in the belief that a strict adherence to the rules already established, both by the American Home Missionary Society and our own Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, will prevent, so far as their respective agencies can control the matter, collision in the work of Domestic Missions.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported the following Overture and reply:

The Presbytery of Athens and the Presbytery of Catskill have severally presented requests, that this General Assembly will direct,

1. That in the column marked "Address," in the roll of ministers and churches as at present printed, the address of each church be entered opposite the name of the church, instead of that of the minister.

2. That the blanks for our Statistical Reports be so amended as to present a fuller view of the objects to which our benevolent contributions are given.

Your Committee are of the opinion that any alteration of the "Address" in the Minutes, or of the blanks for Statistical Reports, is inexpedient at present, and recommend that no action be taken by this Assembly requiring it.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported an Overture, asking whether "it is proper for the deacons of our churches to officiate on sacramental occasions when the elders are present?"

The Committee recommended that, inasmuch as we have no rule in relation to the subject, the matter be referred to the discretion of the sessions of the churches. The report was adopted.

The same Committee presented the following report, which was adopted: [498]

A paper from the Synod of Albany, containing some suggestions or resolutions in relation to the use of liturgical forms of worship, which they desire to be adopted by this General Assembly, was considered by your Committee this morning, when it was

Resolved, That, as the usages and forms of the Presbyterian Church have been so uniform and acceptable for years past, from their scriptural simplicity; and as no extensive departure from, or change of, these usages and forms is likely to take place in the Presbyterian denomination, therefore it is the judgment of this Committee that no action by this Assembly is at present demanded.

The same Committee reported two inquiries from the Presbytery of Iowa City, in respect to which a majority and minority report were presented. Pending their consideration, the Assembly proceeded to an order of the day.

The Rev. John C. V. Hoes, D. D., the Delegate of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The consideration of the appeal of Silas Miller was resumed. The Rev. George I. King, D. D., of the Presbytery of Schuyler, was heard for half an hour, by request and in behalf of the appellant.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the morning hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the appeal of Silas Miller was resumed. The Rev. Edwin Black was heard in behalf of the session of the church of Tuscola, one of the original parties in the case. The Rev. George I. King, D. D., was further heard in behalf of the appellant. The members of the Synod present were then heard in explanation of the grounds of their decision.

The further consideration of the case was deferred until the afternoon session.

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Delegate to the

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That, while the General Assembly would not be considered as censuring in the least the Rev. Henry Little, our Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, believing that he acted conscientiously and according to [499] the best of his judgment, they would, nevertheless, express the opinion that their Delegates are under obligations to fulfil the mission to which they are appointed, and have no authority virtually to terminate, by their own act, a correspondence between this Assembly and another ecclesiastical body.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Leave of Absence, it was

Resolved, That the General Assembly earnestly recommend to its Presbyteries, as far as possible, the appointment as Commissioners of those only who are able and willing to remain to the close of its session, to the end that all the work of the Assembly may be performed by all its members.

It was further

Resolved, That this Assembly recommend to each of the Presbyteries to take effectual measures to secure an annual meeting of the elders of its churches.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The consideration of the appeal of Silas Miller was resumed. The Roll of the Assembly was called, and opportunity given to every member to express his opinion on the case. After which the final vote was taken, when it appeared that the decision of the Synod of Illinois in the case of the appellant, Silas Miller, was confirmed.

Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D., John P. Crosby, Esq., and William H. Jessup, Esq., were appointed a *Committee to prepare a minute* expressive of the sense of the Assembly in passing the vote.

Adjourned until Monday next at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the sessions of Saturday were read and approved.

A communication was received from the General Synod of the [500] Reformed Presbyterian Church, recently in session at New York City, relative to a General Convention, looking to the *Union of all the Presbyterian bodies* in the country, was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., the Rev. William H. Goodrich, D. D., and the Hon. Peter Odlin.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of ministerial relief, beg leave to report:

That the object of this Fund, and the mode of administering it, meet their entire approbation. The Master has said, with special reference to spiritual labor, "the laborer is worthy of his hire," and certainly the laborer, when worn out with hard work, or disabled from it by old age, should be entitled to the pittance of his daily bread, till he is called to his rest.

The necessity and propriety of this Fund for Ministerial Relief may be seen from the following considerations:

The usual inadequacy of ministerial support for any purpose of accumulation, or provision for long continued disability or helpless old age. Ministers and their families have the same wants as persons in other positions in life; their children are to be fed and clothed and educated. But with the exception of those few settled in our cities and larger villages, and abler churches, the remuneration for their labor is barely sufficient for their pressing daily wants; and it is believed that no class of men are accustomed to practise a more rigid economy and prudent outlay. The difficulties and embarrassments in this regard are greatly increased, in these times of high prices, by the fact that the salaries of ministers have not been advanced in proportion to the advance in the expenses of living, or in proportion to the advance of remuneration for other kinds of labor. As long as ministers can labor, they can live, because none know how to exercise a wiser economy; but, when laid aside, if they have nothing to fall back upon, and no personal friends to extend the helping hand, they must be subjected to privation and suffering; and their wives, if left widows, and their children, if left orphans, with their former dependence swept away, should be regarded as entitled to special sympathy and aid from the friends of Christ.

The long pastorates are few; where they exist, there is very little danger that the pastor or his family will be neglected in their days of want. They are provided for by a very kind remembrance of long and laborious service, and by a warm affection on the part of their people, that is better for them than a life insurance. Many of our ministers are subject to frequent changes of place. A few years of service in one place, and then in another, establishes no special claim anywhere; and especially is this fact true in reference to our Home Missionaries and those doing pioneer service in the Church; when disabled or laid aside from age, they feel that they have no home and no friends; that they are [501] remembered by no one of the congregations which they have served, with sufficient interest to make sure a careful looking after their temporal comfort.

It is only in the absence of all other means of support that disabled ministers are expected to lean upon this Fund for Ministerial Relief. In the great majority of cases of the disabled and the aged, a Divine Providence presents some method of relief, without the necessity of resorting to the scanty pittance afforded by this Fund. Sons and daughters, religiously trained, feel it a privilege to honor their parents, by supplying their wants, when those parents have passed beyond the period of remunerative labor. It is only when Providence presents no other method of relief, that this Fund comes in with its timely aid. The plan of thus affording relief is so well arranged, and so carefully guarded by the necessary steps to obtain that relief, that there is very little danger even of a wrong appropriation.

The Committee would renew the recommendation of a former Assembly, that each church connected with the Assembly be requested to take an annual collection in aid of this Fund for Ministerial Relief. A timely sermon. now and then, setting forth the claims of such an one as Paul, the aged. wearied and worn out in the service of the Church, would be quite sure to meet a response on the part of the people amply sufficient for all the purposes of the Fund. This is only the third year of the existence of this Fund in our branch of the Church, but since its establishment the interest of the churches in it has been steadily increasing, while the applications for relief have been increasing in just about the proportion of the increase of interest. Worthy applicants are supplied to the full extent of the Fund, and to keep up this system of needed relief there must be a constant supply from the churches.

The Committee feel, also, that the object contemplated by this Fund is one which may well be commended to those moneyed men in the Church who are desirous of leaving their charities in a position of permanent usefulness. What more noble charity can there be, what more acceptable to the Master, than to minister to the necessities of those of His disabled and aged servants who have spent their lives in the toils of Christian labor, and are only lingering in this world till the Master shall call them to their reward in the next?

The Committee would, also, call the attention of each Presbytery to the importance of having a Standing Committee, through whom applications for relief may be made. The rules of the Fund require, that every applicant should apply for aid through the Committee of his own Presbytery. Such a Committee is necessary, not only to indorse the first application, but every renewed application. Serious inconvenience and needless delay and expense have been occasioned, in consequence of the neglect to appoint such a Committee.

Finally, the Committee would suggest, that the class of minis[502]ters and their families, for whose relief this Fund has been established, should not be forgotten or overlooked in the prayers of Christian people.

A paper conveying a request in behalf of Mr. Silas Miller, that his case be referred to the Synod of Illinois for final action, was referred to the Committee appointed to prepare a minute on the decision of the Assembly.

The Standing Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows: To

1. *The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, that met this year at Cincinnati, Ohio*—Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, and the Hon. William Strong, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principals; and Rev. Halsey Dunning, of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, and James W. Kerr, M. D., of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, alternates.

2. *The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Thomas Lippincott, of the Presbytery of Alton, principal; and Rev. John M. Bishop, of the Presbytery of Salem, alternate.

3. *The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. Clement E. Babb, of the Presbytery of Hamilton, principal; and Rev. Rollin A. Sawyer, of the Presbytery of Dayton, alternate.

4. *The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in North America*—Rev. A. Augustus Wood, D. D., principal; and the Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., of the Presbytery of Geneva, alternate.

5. *The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. George A. Lyon, D. D., of the Presbytery of Erie, principal; and Rev. Samuel M. Sparks, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, alternate.

6. *The General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. Henry E. Niles, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, principal; and the Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, of the same Presbytery, alternate.

7. *The General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. Francis B. Wheeler, of the Presbytery of North River, principal; and Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, alternate.

8. *The General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Burtis C. Megie, of the Presbytery of Rockaway, principal; and Rev. Selden Haines, of the Presbytery of Utica, alternate.

9. *The General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Timothy M. Hopkins, of the

Presbytery of Geneva, principal; and Rev. Benjamin Graves, of the Presbytery of Dayton, alternate.

10. *The General Association of Massachusetts*—Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, [503] principal; and Rev. Ezra H. Gillett, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

11. *The General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. T. Ralston Smith, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, principal; and Rev. Erskine N. White, of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

12. *The Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. George Duffield, Jr., of the Presbytery of Knox, principal; and Rev. Edwin L. Hurd, of the Presbytery of Schuyler, alternate.

The report was adopted.

The designation of Delegates to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, was referred with power to the Standing Committee of Nominations.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions have given careful consideration to the report of the Permanent Committee, and such other papers as have been given by the General Assembly to their charge, and present the following results of their deliberations:

Your Committee regret that the review of the year should again show, that a very large proportion of our membership (nearly one-fourth) make no contribution to the work of Foreign Missions, and that the amounts given are so small, being on an average of but about ninety-eight cents per member throughout our whole Church.

Your Committee are aware that, in the number of non-contributing churches, are found exclusively our feeble churches, many of them missionary churches and themselves struggling for a bare existence. Yet we believe that no church or individual can be so poor as to be exempt from the duty, or so weak as to be deprived of this great means of grace—giving to send the Gospel to a heathen world.

Your Committee are of the opinion that a lack of information in respect to the necessities of the world abroad, is practically the main and efficient cause of the want of interest. and of the inadequacy of the contributions. Unless there be an acquaintance with the work being done, interest is impossible. They feel most who know best.

Regrets should lead to a prompt and efficient remedy. This remedy, your Committee suppose, is easily within the reach of every pastor. Very many pastors are lamentably ignorant of the foreign missionary field, and are unwilling to give the time necessary to acquire information. It is not wonderful that they do not impart what they do not possess.

If each pastor should interest himself, by a systematic acquaintance with what God is doing in the heathen world through our [504] missionaries, and should become familiar with the men through their work, he could scarcely fail to communicate his awakened zeal to his people. Who can doubt that any church, made acquainted with the location of only a few mission stations, made familiar with the names, character, and labors of even a few missionaries, would inevitably be found giving of its means to sustain them?

Your Committee, in behalf of the General Assembly, would most earnestly urge, upon all pastors and stated supplies, the duty of personal familiarity with the work of God in foreign lands, and a diligent and careful impartation of more or less detailed knowledge of this subject to their people, believing, as we do, that this would without doubt secure a response from even the feeblest church.

Closely allied to this topic is the use of our missionary publications. The circulation of the *Missionary Herald* should be promoted. Under its new and efficient management it is more than ever valuable. Your Committee would suggest, also, that the Permanent Committee be directed to make, as far as practicable, a systematic use of the *Presbyterian Monthly* magazine, publishing extracts from the letters of our missionaries at as early a date as possible after their receipt, and giving such other facts as shall be calculated to awaken a personal concern in the reader with the brethren gone out from our churches.

Your Committee regard with deep interest the correspondence which the Permanent Committee have had with our missionary brethren during the past year. The letters from these brethren, at once noble and touching, draw them more closely than ever to our hearts. It is to be hoped that this correspondence so happily begun will be continued and extended.

Your Committee have been deeply affected by the earnest pleadings of our overworked missionaries for help. We cannot but regard with great solicitude the fact, that the accumulated labors of our brethren abroad have laid one and another aside, and threaten to send others to premature graves. Will not our young men listen to those almost despairing cries for help?

With these sorrowful feelings, your Committee mingle rejoicings over the fact that, during the year past, an unusual number have offered themselves to the foreign missionary work, and that God has been graciously pleased to revive, in our seminaries, the missionary spirit, which in other days sent many brethren, very able and very dear, to the heathen world.

An Overture has been placed in the hands of your Committee from the Presbytery of Monroe, asking "That the General Assembly will take into consideration the propriety of receiving the mission now under the care of the Rev. R. G. Wilder, at Kolapoor, India, into its care."

An Overture from the Presbytery of Detroit, making the same request, and asking that the General Assembly would "refer the whole matter to a special committee," has by the vote of the General Assembly been committed to us. [505]

While your Committee cannot but admire the most energetic efforts of Mr. Wilder to sustain this mission, and cannot cease to rejoice in its success, yet to accede to this Overture, and receive this mission under the care of the General Assembly, would be to inaugurate an entirely new and different system of carrying forward our foreign missionary work. This we feel assured the General Assembly is not at present prepared to do. We, therefore, recommend that the Overture be answered in the negative.

Your Committee find, embodied in the Permanent Committee's report, an earnest letter from one of our missionaries among the Indians, petitioning the General Assembly to memorialize our National Congress, and to "ask that Indians, like all other persons, be declared subject to the criminal laws of the United States, and that provision may be made for the appointment and support of officers to enforce our laws among them." The Permanent Committee also "express the hope, that this General Assembly will give heed to the earnest request," etc.

On a very careful consideration of the subject, your Committee are of the opinion, that the facts upon which these requests are based are too broadly, at least, if not incorrectly, stated, and that however, through the inefficiency and corruption of officials, and especially through a low and wicked public sentiment, they are badly administered, yet our laws intend to protect the life and property of the Indian, and that, when in reach, he is under their provisions both for protection and for punishment.

When it is remembered that the Indian tribes are independent, and that treaties are made with them as separate nationalities, it will be seen at once that to petition Congress to extend our criminal laws over them, in a larger sense than now, would be to ask that their acknowledged independence be taken away, and their whole status and relation to the government changed. This would involve great questions of civil rights and citizenship which clearly do not lie within the province of this Assembly to discuss.

While, then, we sympathize most deeply with our brethren among the Indians in their trials, and rejoice with them in their successes, and while we feel most profoundly the wrongs crying to Heaven that the Indians suffer, yet we do not see that it is proper for the General Assembly to accede to the request which we have now considered.

Your Committee take this occasion to express their profound concern, when they perceive that, while each of the other great benevolent causes of our Church has made gratifying progress, this of Foreign Missions alone has remained stationary or has relatively retrograded. Our Church seems to have lost in a measure a sense of its profound importance.

The cause of Missions is one. There ought not to be, as there cannot be on a proper consideration of the subject, any antagonism between the departments of Home and Foreign Missions; and any view which would exalt the one above the other, or seek to [506] advance the one at the expense of the other, is at once short-sighted and mistaken.

The command of Christ, " Go ye to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," was given to the seventy timid, childish disciples, who knew scarcely that he was the Messiah; it was lost, and evermore to be forgotten, in the sublime command from an ascending Christ, " Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." The promise, full of boundless blessedness, " Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world," was in the same breath with that which gave this great commission. The world-discipling Church is the Christ-containing Church.

The hour, when with narrow selfishness she begins to care only for her own, is the hour when she begins to lose the presence of her Master. A Church, not a missionary Church sending the Gospel abroad, is a dying Church. Her history proves it. The days of her home power have been the days of her missionary zeal. It has been so in the past, and our statistics show to-day that churches which have made the largest contributions to Home Missions have been those which exhibit the fullest to Foreign Missions; and that, for every foreign missionary sent abroad, ten have been sent to the home field. We believe that it would be disastrous beyond measure to the piety and power of our Church, were the idea to prevail, that to promote home evangelization our foreign work must be forsaken.

We can never disobey, ignore, or hold in abeyance the great command of the Lord Jesus, without the veiling of His presence and the withdrawal of the Holy Spirit, the life power of the Church. We can no more effectually enkindle her love and quicken her zeal for her home work, than to fill her with a tearful solicitude for a heathen world.

The Rev. Robert R. Booth, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Mr. William Churchill, and Mr. Oliver E. Wood, are recommended for election on the Permanent Committee of Foreign Missions, to the full term of three years; and the Hon. Horace J. Poinier and Hon. John Torrey, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of Hon. William E. Dodge and Hon. Edward A. Lambert.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to its churches the observance of the week, beginning with the first Sabbath of January next, as a week of special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend the observance of the day of special prayer for Colleges and Seminaries of learning.

The report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Home Missions, in presenting their [507] report, cannot refrain from expressing their thankfulness to the great Head of the Church, for the large measure of success, that has attended the operations of the Permanent Committee for the last year. They are grateful, that we have been permitted, as a Church, so greatly to enlarge, during the year, the number of our missionaries; that so many calls from different parts of the field have reached us for new laborers; and that the Church has responded to these calls by a large increase of pecuniary assistance. In these facts, they discover cheering evidence of the growth of the spiritual life of the Church, of the sanctification of its members, and of their increased sympathy with the great Head of the Church in His benevolent purposes for our ruined humanity. Remembering that the preceding ecclesiastical year was distinguished by a great outpouring of God's Spirit, that two hundred and fourteen revivals are specially mentioned in our Presbyterial Narratives for that year, they cannot fail to regard this enlargement and quickening of our missionary activities, as a Church, as one of the happy results of these seasons of spiritual refreshment. Our people having first "given their own selves unto the Lord," it was natural that they, like the primitive churches of Macedonia, should abound in this grace of liberality also. From this striking coincidence your Committee cannot but hope, that we may all learn wherein lies the true secret of the Church's power, and her highest preparation for the work of either our country's or the world's evangelization; and that our present ecclesiastical year, full of the power of the Divine Spirit in our churches, may thus become a year of great advance in the work of Home Missions.

But the great occasion, that your Committee feel for thankfulness to Almighty God, for the success of the past year, is the fact that they regard it as only a prophecy of greater advance in the future. That steady progress which has marked the work of our Permanent Committee, ever since its organization, we believe, is not only to continue for the year to come, but is to be greatly accelerated. And, while it may not exactly come within the province of this Standing Committee to attempt, by any argument, to magnify before the Assembly this work, yet to two particular features of this great enterprise they cannot forbear a very brief allusion.

What we do for our country should be done quickly. The present time is particularly opportune for labor in this department of Christian effort. Society, in many portions of our land, broken up and rendered fearfully chaotic by our long struggle for universal freedom and union, is now fast crystallizing anew. The population of our new States and Territories, heretofore, in many instances, so scattered as to be almost inaccessible to our missionary labor, is now fast gathering into centres along our newly built or recently projected railways. Rumor of war in the old world, united with hopeless political oppression, is stimulating emigration, and is bringing, in large numbers, to our shores the papal and [508] semi-infidel population of Europe. Now, then, is pre-eminently the time for Home Missionary work. "The King's business requires haste." When society shall have again been in this land reorganized, and these new centres of population and trade shall have been established, and this tidal movement westward of the nations shall be at its full, the difficulties of evangelization will all be fearfully increased.

The other thought, that on this subject your Committee ventures to suggest, regards the peculiar adaptation of our own branch of the great Church of Christ to this work of home evangelization. Without saying one word to the disparagement of any other Christian denomination, we only express our enlightened judgment when we affirm, that our advantages and facilities for Christianizing America, and consequently our responsibilities to engage in this work, are unequaled by any of our sister Churches. With a polity so flexible and yet so firm as to enable us to have an indefinite growth at the extremities without at all weakening our central life; with a government in such admirable accord with the genius of our civil institutions; with a ministry scriptural and at the same time highly cultured; and, above all, with a love of freedom and hatred of oppression that was strikingly manifested before as well as during and after the war; we believe ourselves possessed with the true elements of a successful evangelism, in a larger measure than any of our brethren. The great foreign population of the North-west, so true to our country in the days of her deepest darkness, and so true now to the principles of universal liberty and political equality, we may reasonably hope, will be peculiarly accessible to the missionaries of a Church that has, at least, been among the foremost of the most fearless in its advocacy of the same principles.

Recreant, then, to our duty will we be as a Church, if we do not go forward immediately and boldly to occupy this whole land for Christ. As to the amount of money that our churches should aim to raise for this object, during the present year, the Committee have not thought it wise to speak definitely. A sum, but a little larger than that raised this year, would be so far below the actual wants of the Committee that we dare not mention it; and a sum, at all adequate to the ever-increasing demands that Providence makes upon us, might prove too heavy a burden for the faith of the timid to carry. We can only earnestly exhort all our churches to abound in their liberality for this object; and in every case to seek to secure, if possible, a large advance upon the contributions of the last year.

The points, on which the Permanent Committee in their report, ask to be instructed by the General Assembly are two:

1. The work among the Germans: How is it to be conducted? The Standing Committee, after a careful consideration of the subject, are unanimously of the opinion that, while the work is one of vast moment and should be prosecuted with vigor, all questions with regard to the manner of conducting it can best be [509] decided by the Permanent Committee themselves, and to their wisdom would they refer the whole subject. At the same time, however, they desire to call the special attention of those Presbyteries, who have a large number of this nationality within their bounds, to their duty to do what they can to bring them under the influence of evangelical truth. The good work that has been accomplished by some of our Presbyteries among this people, they believe, might be repeated by others.

2. With regard to the Cherokee nation, and the question whether the Permanent Committee should endeavor to send missionaries among them, and revive the churches once established there, your Committee, recognizing the hand of God in the way in which these calls have reached us, are satisfied that it is our duty to occupy, if possible, this field. Churches planted by the toil of our missionary brethren of the American Board, and so fervently prayed for by our fathers, and even by ourselves, should not be per-

mitted to die, if, by any instrumentality in our power, their life can be maintained and their future growth secured. So far, then, as the claims of other portions of the field will allow, and so far as God in His providence may supply suitable men, the Committee hope that we shall soon, as a Church, give to these sons of the forest the precious Gospel of Christ.

To that part of the report of the Permanent Committee, which refers to their plan of bringing the missionaries into closer contact with the churches, by designating some one as the correspondent of any individual, family, or Sabbath-school, that will pay into its treasury the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars annually, we desire to call the special attention of the General Assembly. Already largely successful, your Committee believe that its efficiency, both in deepening the missionary spirit in our churches, and in enlarging their benefactions to this cause, may, and ought to be, greatly increased. The contributions of our Sabbath-schools to benevolent objects, already great and constantly increasing, ought largely, we think, to flow into the channel of Home Missions. Our children should be early taught to give to the great charities of their own Church, and should have awakened in their bosoms just that interest in home evangelization, that a regular correspondence with a laborer in this field would be best calculated to excite. May not a very large number of our pastors and stated supplies secure, from their Sabbath-schools, the support of at least one of our missionaries? We can hardly estimate the happy results which would flow from a wide extension of this plan of our Permanent Committee.

The following recommendations it has seemed wise to the Standing Committee to make to the General Assembly:

1. That the usual number of copies of the sixth annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions be printed, and that the Secretary be instructed to secure their general distribution throughout our churches.

2. That the Presbyterial Committees of Home Missions be [510] earnestly requested, to use their most strenuous endeavors to secure, from every church within their bounds, an annual collection for this object; and, further, that the presbyters be instructed, at one of their stated meetings, annually to inquire of every church what it has done for this cause.

3. That the best interests of the cause of Christ on our missionary field require the co-operation of the Committee of Home Missions and the Church Erection Board; and that the general policy of our Permanent Committee, in issuing commissions for fields where we have no houses of worship, should be to act in conjunction with the Church Erection Board, in securing at the earliest possible period so desirable an end. The adoption of this policy of mutual support will, in the opinion of the Committee, multiply the number of self-supporting churches, and thus diminish the number of calls upon the treasury, and, at the same time, secure to our Church the occupancy of the most important points on the field.

The Committee recommend that Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., William Adams, D. D., Hon. Edward A. Lambert, Joseph F. Joy, and James B. Pinneo, be re-elected as members of the Permanent Committee; and that Walter M. Aikman be appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of J. Milton Smith.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty thousand dollars is the lowest sum that should be named, as that to be used by our branch of the Church for the prosecution of the work of Home Missions the present year; and we earnestly urge upon all our churches the duty of greatly swelling their contributions, so that the pressing wants of the West and South may be measurably met, and the Permanent Committee be enabled to make their appropriations on the basis of a quarter of a million.

Resolved, That, in view of the wonderful dealings of Providence with our nation; of the present formative condition of a great portion of our country; of the pressing necessity of now moulding the religious character of its people, and of our obligations to the Head of the Church, it is the duty of our Church to raise the greatest possible sum of money during the current year for the causes of Home Missions and the kindred objects of Church Erection, Education, Publication, and Ministerial Relief.

Resolved, That all the Presbyteries connected with this Assembly, which have not heretofore done so, are requested to adopt, at their next stated meeting respectively, a regular systematic plan of benevolence for the churches under their care; and to enjoin on every church, without exception, to bear its part thereof, and on every session, or church committee, to adopt such specific plan of effort in their respective churches as will reach every member thereof, and be most efficient under their circumstances in accomplishing the greatest success.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be presented to [511] the Hon. Edward A. Lambert, for the able and acceptable manner in which he has gratuitously discharged the duties of Treasurer of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions.

The report of the Special Committee on the work among the Freedmen was taken up. Pending its consideration,

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report on the work among the Freedmen was resumed. The report of the Special Committee was referred to the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions with power to act in the matter as they deem best.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

On an Overture that appears to respect the introduction into the Church of an order of laymen permanently licensed to preach the Gospel, the Committee propose the following reply:

That, in view of the many dangers and difficulties, and the doubtful advantages of an order of permanent lay licentiates not candidates for ordination, it is inexpedient to take such action as is asked for by this Overture.

At the same time, the Assembly would emphatically declare their opinion, that it is both the privilege and duty of all Christians to go everywhere preaching the Word as God shall give them ability and opportunity, after the manner of the primitive disciples. And the Assembly hereby urge, upon the ministers and church sessions connected with this body, a more systematic and effective use of the zeal and ability of our intelligent eldership and lay element, in the work of evangelization in town and country.

The report of the same Committee on the Overture from the Presbytery of Iowa City was taken up. The Overture is as follows:

1. The Presbytery of Iowa City desire the Assembly, "to determine when the rights and privileges of ruling elders and private members cease, on their receiving letters of dismission; and whether the same rule obtains as in the dismission of ministers from a Presbytery."

2. "Can a Presbyterian church, under the care of a Presbytery, withdraw regularly, without first asking consent and leave of the Presbytery?"

The answer adopted by the Assembly is as follows: [512]

The established rule of the Presbyterian Church, in relation to the dismission of a minister from his Presbytery, is, "that in all ordinary cases, all the rights and privileges of an individual in a Presbytery cease when, at his request, his dismission is granted."

He may, however, within any reasonable time before he has used his letter of dismission, return it to the Presbytery, and then claim all his former rights and privileges; but, until he has used his letter, he is amenable to the Presbytery which has dismissed him. See Digest, Chap. II., sec. 8.

Your Committee have not been able to find any specific rule in our Form of Government, or in the Digest, in relation to the dismission of ruling elders or of private members from any particular church, indicating the precise time when their rights and privileges in that church from which, at their own request, they may be dismissed, cease; but we have no hesitation in declaring our belief, that the same guardian care which is extended over dismissed members is, by the very genius and intent of our excellent Form of Government, designed also for the protection of regularly dismissed elders and private members, as well as for the preservation of the peace and purity of the Church.

We therefore respectfully recommend to this Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions: that

1. The dismission of a ruling elder, by letter, from a church, terminates his official relations with that church.

2. A letter of dismission, whether issued to a ruling elder or private member, terminates the relations of the person dismissed with the church giving the letter, except so far as said church is responsible for its watch and care over him during the period of transition.

3. These rights and privileges can be regained in that church by returning the letters of dismission to the authority which gave them.

4. These rights and privileges can be secured in any other church within the jurisdiction of this General Assembly, by virtue of such certificates, provided they are presented to the session thereof within one year from their date; and, until they are presented, such persons are amenable to the church from which the certificates were received.

To the second general question we unhesitatingly reply, that no Presbyterian church, under care of a Presbytery, can withdraw regularly, without first asking consent and leave of the Presbytery under whose care and jurisdiction it voluntarily placed itself.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported an Overture with reference to a change in the manner of distributing the printed Minutes of the Assembly, with the recommendation following:

That it is inexpedient to adopt the course proposed, as it [513] would involve the Assembly in an additional expenditure of at least one hundred dollars, to be taken from the Mileage Fund, which is ordinarily not sufficient to meet the claims upon it. It is understood that any Presbytery, by prepayment of the postage on the Minutes to the Stated Clerk, may have their quota sent by mail.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported an Overture with reference to the Colleges of Rogersville and Maryville, Tennessee, with the following minute, which was adopted:

The General Assembly, regarding with interest all efforts to promote education in every part of the country; and being memorialized by several Commissioners and others to take action in behalf of the Rogersville Female College, and also Maryville College, both in East Tennessee, though neither is subject to our ecclesiastical control, yet both being, by their charter, distinctively Presbyterian, and projected in the interest of liberal and Christian culture: therefore, the Assembly would commend them to the patronage of all friends of learning and religion as worthy of aid.

The same Committee reported a memorial, asking that the Assembly take more decided action concerning the evil of promiscuous dancing, with the answer following:

In the absence of any specific complaint requiring this body to exercise the authority invoked, and the General Assembly having confidence in the ministers and sessions connected with the several Presbyteries, as fully competent to do all which is proper and wise for the edification of their respective churches, Therefore,

Resolved, That the past action of the General Assembly, expresses with sufficient clearness their disapproval of the practice referred to.

The paper was adopted.

The same Committee recommended the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That this Assembly hereby declare their most cordial sympathy with the American Bible Society in its work of supplying the destitute with the Holy Scriptures, and gratefully recognize the tokens of Divine favor which have marked its past history, in the success which has attended its efforts to circulate the Bible, both in our own country and abroad.

Resolved, That, in view of the great and constantly increasing demand for the Scriptures, and the relation of the Bible-work to all the enterprises, home and foreign, which, as a Church, we are endeavoring to promote, we earnestly commend the Society to all whom we represent, as worthy of and needing their greatly increased liberality in its behalf. [514]

The report of the Standing Committee on Education was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry was referred, respectfully report:

The papers submitted to them show gratifying increase of interest and success in the essential work of preparing men for the ministry.

The Theological Seminaries in our connection enjoy augmented prosperity. The number of candidates for the ministry under care of the Permanent Committee is greater than ever before. The contributions received exceed those of any previous year.

But a few words will show, that there is room for greatly increased interest, and pressing need of it. The number of candidates averages but little more than one to each Presbytery. Only three hundred and sixty-three churches out of fifteen hundred and twenty-eight have sent in contributions, leaving eleven hundred and sixty-five that have given nothing. An average of ten dollars only from each of these would sustain a larger number of candidates by more than one-half than were sustained. A few of the larger churches have contributed liberally; but the exigencies of the cause demand more liberal contributions from all of this class, and something at the same time from each of the entire number, even the feeblest. Every one should have part in helping those who, for Christ's sake, devote themselves to preaching his Gospel, and who need help in their best training to do it efficiently and successfully. Then, the loudest call which now comes to us from every quarter is for men, more men! Men are needed for vacant churches, some of which are large and influential, and some decaying and ready to die for want of a minister. Men are needed for destitute fields in every direction, in the older as well as newer portions of our country, East and West, North and North-west, and far West, South, and South-west. Men are needed in the foreign field as well as at home. The Foreign Missionary Committee calls for men. The Home Committee calls—churches call. The thronging myriads from the old world, the Freedmen, and Indian tribes call. Africa calls. Asia calls. The islands of the sea call. The world calls. And the united call is for men—living, earnest, well-trained, and devoted men. Nothing else. No devices, no other means will answer the call. The men must be had or the work decline, the churches waste, the desolations continue, the world remain in its perishing condition.

Our system to aid in meeting this demand is well organized, and has accomplished much; but much more remains to be done. It is not planning we need, but execution.

Those who have the work in especial charge may well renew their zeal, and should be sustained by our united prayers and co-operation. Ministers and churches should recognize the great demand of the time. More than anything else men are wanted. [515] With prayer, appropriate means should be associated; young men sought out, encouraged, and aided. Let parents and Sabbath-school teachers hear the call, and repeat it to those under their care, and pray that some of them may be selected and put into the ministry. Let ministers preach upon the subject, that the people generally may know the want. Let the truth be made distinct and obvious, that the preaching of the Gospel is the Divine method of saving men; that for its preaching men must be called of God; that he calls through means, as he carries on other parts of his work of grace in the world; and that labor for the increase of the ministry cannot be in vain in the Lord. Let all the churches regularly contribute to the Education Fund. Let the Presbyteries make the subject a part of the business of their stated meetings. Let all this be done, which is but carrying out the plan adopted by the Assembly, and unfolded in the Education Manual, and we shall be far advanced in supplying the urgent demand. Much will be accomplished directly. More candidates will offer themselves. The number may soon be doubled. There will be sufficient money to sustain them; and instead of fifteen we shall soon be introducing, by this means, thirty or fifty annually to the ministry.

Then more will be accomplished indirectly. Those who can sustain themselves, or be sustained by their friends, will be prompted to undertake the work. Others, who are in a course of education, will devote themselves to it. Others, whose collegiate education has been completed, will hear the call, and consecrate the attainments made for other purposes to preaching Christ and him crucified.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the education of young men for the ministry is essential to the work of the Church in giving the Gospel to the world.

Resolved, 2. That all our ministers be earnestly requested to preach at least once during the year on this subject; and all our churches to take collections and forward to the Committee at an early day, not deferring beyond the Sabbath preceding or succeeding the day of prayer for Colleges and Seminaries of learning.

Resolved, 3. That the present demand for men gives peculiar emphasis to our Saviour's single direction with regard to the supply of laborers, and should lead all who love him and his cause to pray earnestly, and without ceasing, that the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers into his harvest.

Resolved, 4. That appropriations be continued at the rate of last year; one hundred and sixty dollars to a theological student, one hundred and thirty-two dollars to a collegiate student, and one hundred dollars to a preparatory student; with liberty to the Permanent Committee to increase the amount in special cases; but in no case to exceed two hundred dollars. [516]

The Committee recommend the appointment of Mr. James W. Dunning to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Walter S. Griffith; and the re-appointment of James P. Wilson, D. D., Robert R. Booth, D. D., J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., Charles S. Robinson, D. D., and Mr. Fisher Howe, to fill the vacancies made by expiration of their terms of office.

The propriety of a change of the day of prayer from the last Thursday of February to the first of that month or the last of January, in order to avoid its recurrence so near the twenty-second of February, and to secure its religious influence earlier in the season, has been suggested. As, however, other bodies than ours, and other institutions than those connected with us, are interested, we simply name the desirableness of the change, and invite general attention to the subject, that whatever final action may be taken shall be united.

In consideration of the impaired health of our highly respected brother, the General Secretary, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, D. D., to whom the Church owes a large debt of gratitude, especially for his devotion, efficiency, and success in the Educational cause. and in order that his usefulness may be prolonged, we recommend that the Permanent Committee afford him entire relief from active duty for a year, with a competent salary, and make provisional arrangements to supply his place during that time. This recommendation was not prompted in any way by Dr. Mills, but originated with the Committee, and is made as the best result of their deliberations.

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministers' Libraries presented as their report the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly direct its Presbyteries to send to the churches under their care a pastoral letter of inquiry and suggestion, with reference to the provision of a manse and a library for the use of the minister in charge of each congregation.

Resolved, 2. That the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery is instructed to bring the foregoing resolution to the notice of the Presbytery, and to forward to the next General Assembly any information that may be obtained in the answers to the proposed inquiry.

The resolutions were adopted, and the Committee continued.

The Special Committee, appointed to prepare a minute expressive of the sense of the Assembly in passing the vote in the case of the appeal of Silas Miller from the decision of the Synod of Illinois, recommended the adoption of the following minute:

The Assembly, having heard the appeal of Silas Miller from the decision of the Synod of Illinois, the sentence appealed from and the reasons assigned therefor, the whole record of the proceedings of the Synod in the case, including all the testimony and the reasons of their decision; and having heard the original parties [517] by their counsel, namely, the appellant, by his counsel, Rev. George I. King, D. D., and the session of the church of Tuscola, by the Rev. Edwin Black; and having also heard the Rev. Livingston M. Glover, D. D., and others, members of the said Synod, in explanation of the grounds of their decision, and having carefully considered said appeal and the reasons assigned therefor by the appellant, are of the opinion that there is no valid ground for the appeal, in that it does not appear that the Synod exceeded its power and authority in the premises, or that it did any of the matters or things specified in Chap. VII., sec. 3, paragraph 3, of the Book of Discipline, as being proper grounds of appeal; and, therefore, the Assembly do now order and direct that the appeal of the said Silas Miller be dismissed, and the decision of the Synod of Illinois be confirmed; and the Assembly further order and direct that, if the session of the church of Tuscola do not, within six months from the date hereof, refer the case to the Presbytery of Wabash for a new trial, in accordance with the decision of the Synod of Illinois, then the decision of the said Synod sustaining the appeal shall become absolute and final, and the said Silas Miller shall be thereupon restored to all the rights and privileges which he had and enjoyed as a member of the church of Tuscola, and from which he was suspended by the judgment and sentence of the session of the said church.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported on the request in behalf of Silas Miller as follows:

That, in the judgment of this Committee, there are no reasonable grounds for the apprehension of the petitioner that, in the event of a reference of his case to the Presbytery of Wabash, he will not have a full and impartial trial; and they therefore recommend that the prayer of his petition be not granted.

The report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Illinois was taken up and adopted. The book was approved as far as written, with exceptions, which were entered on the Records of the Synod.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church reported the following minute:

Resolved, That, while the proposal made by the General Synod to this Assembly, in common with all the Presbyterian bodies of this country, to meet in conference at Philadelphia, during next September, for the purpose of taking steps preliminary to a union of all branches of the Presbyterian family in the United States, is a most welcome token of the increasing unity of spirit throughout the whole household of God, and, we would fain believe, a harbinger of full fellowship and ultimate union in the visible church of every name; we, nevertheless, feel constrained to decline a share in such a conference at so early a date, for the reason that [518] measures are already in progress, between the branches of the Presbyterian Church, whose Assemblies meet in Rochester and Cincinnati respectively, for a reunion of those bodies on specific terms now under consideration; and that these negotiations, until complete, should take precedence of any other discussions or conferences, on our part, on that subject.

Resolved, That we desire, in announcing this conclusion, to express, to our brethren of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, our most cordial regard and sympathy with the spirit of their movement toward general unity, and to assure them that, whenever such a proposition as they now make can be considered, without interference with other plans of union having rightful precedence, we shall not be slow to meet their suggestion, and seek its successful accomplishment.

The report was adopted, and the Stated Clerk directed to communicate the action officially to the body from which the overture came.

The Committee, appointed for the purpose, reported the Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of this body. The paper was adopted, and directed to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Overture on a Sustentation Fund was taken up, and referred to the Special Committee on Manses and Ministers' Libraries.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery is hereby directed to examine carefully the annual Minutes of the Assembly, and to bring to the notice of the Presbytery all the acts of the Assembly requiring their attention.

Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., and Rev. William T. Eva, and Messrs. John C. Farr and Charles S. Wurts were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to serve three years. The Rev. Albert Barnes and Mr. Alexander Whilldin were similarly elected, to serve the unexpired terms of Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Mr. Matthias W. Baldwin, deceased.

Messrs. Ezra M. Kingsley Joseph F. Joy, and Edward A. Lambert were elected Auditors of the Church Erection Fund for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, [519] and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without leave: Ministers, David Vandyke and Eli W. Taylor; Elders, George V. Hoyle, Ezra Botsford, Cyrus Sebring, Reuben Sours, William Bradley, Samuel Axtell, Elias Lyman, Samuel Crawford, Harvey Curtis, and Willis M. Sherwood.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Monday, May 27th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

A letter was read from the Rev. Thomas Guthrie, D. D., one of the Delegates of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, giving reasons for his absence, and extending to the Assembly the salutations of his Church.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That this General Assembly deem it both a duty and a privilege to make most grateful mention of the bountiful hospitality of the citizens of Rochester, in providing for the entertainment of those in attendance upon our sessions as Commissioners and Delegates. We are under special obligations to the Committee of Arrangements, to the beloved pastor and the people of the Brick church, to the Central church, and to all others who have entertained us, for their happy and most successful efforts to make us forget that we were strangers, by making us feel that we were at home.

Resolved, That we tender our cordial thanks to the managers of the Mount Hope Nurseries for the invitation to visit their grounds and green-house; to the Athenæum Association for the privileges of their reading-room and library; to Mr. O. D. Grosvenor for the facilities afforded at the rooms of the American Tract Society; to the several railroad companies which have granted the Commissioners a reduced fare over their roads; to the American Express Company for their generous consideration; to the press of Rochester for faithful reports of our proceedings; and also to our beloved Moderator for the genial, impartial, and every way commendable manner in which he has justified our unanimous and *viva voce* choice of him to preside over our deliberations.

We deem worthy of special mention the beautiful floral offerings that have greeted us every morning. Our recollections of the fair donors shall be as fragrant in memory as their flowers have been to the Assembly.

And, in ending our brief but delightful association with those who have shown us so much thoughtful regard, we would say, The [520] Lord bless the dear people of Rochester, the Lord bless and keep them, the Lord make his face shine upon them and be gracious unto them, the Lord lift up his countenance upon them and give them peace.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the First Presbyterian church of the city of Harrisburgh, Pa., on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1868.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER,
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1867.

Of the one hundred and nine Presbyteries, eighty-six have sent to the Assembly their annual Narratives. These Narratives are, with few exceptions, adapted to make glad the heart of every one who loves the Church of God. They afford cheering evidence of growing compactness and unity, growing liberality, growing piety, growing numbers, growing prosperity and power. They prove that, while corruptions have abounded in society, and the prevailing worldly spirit has been everywhere working out its results, and the wicked have done wickedly, growing worse and worse, the Church has been kept by the power of God, has been accomplishing its work, and giving, in its life, on the whole, a continually higher and purer illustration of the religion of Christ. Above all, they prove the presence of God with us, and his approbation of our efforts to promote his kingdom.

Advancement in Piety and Christian Activity,

on the part of churches not blessed with powerful revivals, is one fact brought to view in the Narratives. Many churches, though not perhaps growing rapidly in numbers, have been growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thus, the Presbytery of Chemung reports "no general and powerful revivals, but precious spiritual refreshings of several churches." The Presbytery of Catskill "finds comfort and encouragement in the healthy, vigorous growth of all our churches which enjoy the regular ministrations of the Gospel." The Presbytery of Harrisburgh says, that "a healthy and steady increase of the number and Christian activity of our communicants is very evident in all our congregations." The Presbytery of Genesee says, that "the last year, though not largely a year of numerical and spiritual increase, has been one of substantial progress and comparative revival." The Presbytery of Delaware reports no revivals, but "a larger increase of members added on examination than during the three years past."

The Presbytery of Dayton reports no revivals, but its "churches are stronger and more vigorous in material and spiritual life than a year ago." The Presbytery of Saginaw, without powerful revivals, reports "an almost universal advance in numbers." The Presbytery of Illinois reports "no general awakening, but a prevailing spiritual activity and healthfulness, attended with accessions to the communion, and increasing congregations."

Another thing noticeable in many reports is

The Abiding Presence of the Holy Spirit,

with special power in many congregations. The Fourth Presbytery of New York, after speaking of unusually large "accessions to its churches," says that, "though there is not a so-called revival, yet a communion never passes without more or less appearing to confess Christ for the first time. Some of our churches live constantly in this state of spiritual activity, and rejoice in the evidence that the Holy Spirit is ever present with them to bless and to save." The fruits of the revivals reported a year since remain, and the reviving influence is continued in many churches. The Presbytery of Cortland reports "a sustained interest following the revivals of a year ago." The Presbytery of Lyons says that "some churches continue to reap happy fruits from the revivals enjoyed last year." The Presbytery of Montrose says: "Tokens of the Spirit's presence are perpetuated in many of our churches. The fruits of the last year's revivals are still apparent in the 'burning and shining light' of many churches and individuals." The Presbytery of the District of Columbia says: "The revival spirit of last year, so largely shared by several of our churches, has perpetuated its happy influences through the present, and still promises blessed and cheering results in the future." The Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage says: "The year opened from revivals of great and lasting power, and the ingathering still continues."

The Naratives mention also many

New Manifestations of the Power and Grace of the Holy Spirit.

The last year was, like the previous one, though perhaps not so remarkably and extensively, a year of the right hand of the Most High—a year of revivals. In the East, and in the furthest West, where of late some of our brethren have had a new song put into their mouths, the Holy Spirit has been present to bless his people: coming down, in some cases, "as rain upon the mown grass," in others with almost Pentecostal energy; wonderfully lifting up and spiritually enriching old and established churches, and greatly reviving and strengthening those that were ready to die. One hundred and eighty-one revivals are particularly mentioned, not including many "seasons of special interest," marked not so much by conversions as by the spiritual improvement of Christians. The Presbyteries, specially favored in respect of the extent and power of the reviving influence, were, so far as reported, those of Watertown, Utica, Cayuga, Geneva, Erie, Alton, Schuyler, and Galena and Belvidere. Many of these revivals date from "the week of prayer," which was very extensively observed. Among those converted were representatives of all ages and conditions; the majority, in some instances, being children and youth gathered in from the Sabbath-schools; in others, "a large proportion being adults and heads of families." In respect of mode, there seems to have been no uniformity. In some cases preaching was the prominent instrumentality; in others, and perhaps most, prayer-meetings were chiefly relied on; such meetings being, in some instances, held from house to house, or in school-houses. In reference to the revivals within its bounds, the Presbytery of Erie says, that there was "less formal and regular preaching than has been usual at such times; more prayer and direct personal effort," on the part of Christians. It is worthy of notice that, in some instances, the earnest prayer and effort were grounded in the expectation of a great and general outpouring of the Spirit. Thus, the Presbytery of Cayuga says: "There is, we believe, a general and growing anticipation that revivals, here and throughout the land and throughout the world, are to become more frequent and more powerful." It is hardly strange that a Presbytery, animated by such an expectant faith, should be able to report an accession of two hundred and fifty-seven to fourteen of its churches, as the fruit of revivals, which, the Presbytery says, "have added more to the strength and spirituality of our churches than to their numbers."

The glorious work of God in the Allen street church, New York, deserves to be particularly noticed, because of its wonderful power and rich harvest of souls, two hundred having been hopefully converted; also because of its peculiar "features." "So deep," says the Third Presbytery of New York, "and all-pervading has been this work, that it must take a prominent place in the history of revivals in our country." The "leading features" are indicated as follows:

"First. The male members of the congregation were the first to be interested in personal religion. Instead of wives leading their husbands to Christ, as is usually the case, husbands were converted, and then persuaded their wives to believe on the Lord.

"Second. The work was carried forward mainly by prayer-meetings. Preaching services were held only once each week, aside from the Sabbath.

"Third. The relating of individual experience proved, under God, a most powerful agency in deepening religious impressions and thus promoting the revival."

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The interest in Sunday-schools is deep, wide, and increasing. For example: the Presbytery of Catskill reports "increased energy;" the Presbytery of Cayuga, "general enlargement and improvement;" the Presbytery of Rochester, "a much increased and increasing interest;" the Presbytery of Buffalo, "a manifestly growing interest;" the Presbytery of Grand River Valley, "never so great an interest" in Sunday-schools and the religious instruction of the young. The Narratives indicate that this increasing interest is well-nigh universal in the Church. It is, to some extent, manifested in the formation of "County Sunday-school Associations," "Sunday-school Institutes," and "Teachers' Training Classes;" also in the increasing self-denial and energy of the efforts to reach the poor and neglected classes of society, by the agency of mission Sunday-schools. Much is done through this agency, especially in the great cities. For example, five churches of the Fourth Presbytery of New York sustain eight mission schools, in which are taught two thousand five hundred children. A nearly equal number are taught in the mission schools of Chicago.

That the Sunday-school is regarded as an evangelizing agency of the highest importance appears from the following considerations, brought to view in the Narratives:

First. It is an agency by which the latent forces of the Church may be brought into most effective exercise, and thus the Church built up in character as well as in numbers. "There is a growing opinion," says the Presbytery of Cortland, "that in the Sunday-school the power of the lay element in our churches is to be most efficiently exerted."

Second. It is an agency which operates upon those who yield most readily to gracious influences, and among whom consequently we are to expect the greatest number of conversions. "It is increasingly felt," says the Presbytery of Illinois, "that children are the most hopeful subjects of Divine grace." "We must," says the Presbytery of Genesee, "gather the children in, or few of the next generation will be saved."

Third. It is an agency by which, through the blessing of God, many are converted. The Presbytery of Montrose speaks of the "Divine approbation in the saving grace imparted to many taught" in Sunday-schools. The Presbytery of Erie says, "God is evidently making the Sunday-schools more and more a source of blessing to the churches." The Presbytery of St. Joseph says, "God has showered down his blessings upon them." The Presbytery of Cortland uses the following language: "Conversions among youth and even little children are frequent, and want of confidence in their genuineness is fast being removed. And such is the faith in God's covenanted and gracious promises, and in the Saviour's care for the lambs of his flock—for of such is the kingdom of heaven—that the feeling is becoming general that the young should be reached as early as possible. The results of recent revivals of religion have generated and confirmed this sentiment."

Fourth. It is an agency which often does excellent service in clearing and breaking ground, and thus preparing the way for the Church with its ordinances. "Much of the pioneer missionary work," says the Presbytery of Alton, "is done by the agency of the Sunday-school."

Fifth. It not only substitutes the formal stated preaching of the Gospel, but also keeps alive the feeble, vacant church. One church is mentioned which owes its continued existence to a Sunday-school. A weak church, with a flourishing Sunday-school, is regarded as "master of the situation." The Presbytery of Union says, "In many of our feeble churches Sunday-schools have been organized and maintained with a commendable degree of activity and perseverance. In the absence of the living ministry, we rejoice to know that the Sunday-school is doing a good work."

It is thought by some of our brethren that this agency may be improved and rendered more effective. The Presbytery of Lyons expresses the "conviction that the idea of what the Sunday-school should be, and what is positive prosperity in this work needs to be corrected and greatly elevated." And the Presbytery of Marshall says, "A growing desire is felt to know more perfectly the way of carrying on most effectively this enterprise of our Church." The Assembly's Committee are anxiously looked to for light on the subject.

Most of the Presbyteries report an increase of

Benevolent Contributions.

The increase is an index of the growing consecration and the deepening spiritual life of the Church, and is most gratifying, not only because of its amount, but also because of its direction. The Presbytery of Watertown says, "The benevolence of the Church is becoming gradually more systematic, and directed more to the objects recommended by the Assembly." The Presbytery of Marshall says: "The principle of loyalty to the Assembly in carrying out the full scheme of benevolent effort is being insisted upon." The Presbytery of Indianapolis says: "Our churches appreciate more and more the importance of contributing to our regular benevolent objects." What is true of these Presbyteries is true also, to a great extent, of the others, as is indicated by the actual increase of contributions. It is a most cheering fact that, in these times when taxation is so heavy and the cost of living so great, our Secretaries are able to report an increase of over sixty thousand dollars in the contributions to the benevolent funds of the Church. It deserves to be recorded also as a sign of progress, and an example of commendable liberality worthy of imitation, that, in the words of the Fourth Presbytery of New York, "by one of our churches but little short of one hundred thousand dollars has been given during the year past to advance the kingdom of Christ."

This increase of liberality is cheering as indicating advancement; but it is not to be forgotten that we have not yet attained to the Gospel standard of benevolence, and that, without doubt, the material resources of the Church have not been as yet deeply drawn upon.

Education, Home Missions, and Church Erection.

Only the Divine Spirit can work out the solution of the above questions as to money and men. The great need, the fundamental need, is the quickening power of the Holy Ghost, imparting to Christians in a higher degree the "mind which was also in Christ." All that is necessary to secure money in any amount, and men in any number, for the Lord's service is a far deeper, more powerful, more extensive work of the Holy Spirit in the Church. The increased liberality is a fruit of revivals, a fruit of the Spirit; and the same spirit, which takes form in gifts of money, takes form also in men giving themselves to the work of God. In proportion, therefore, as the unworldly, self-denying spirit expressed in gifts and sacrifices deepens and strengthens in the Church, it may be expected that young men in increasing numbers will offer themselves for the work of the Gospel ministry. Accordingly, it is very gratifying to be able to see in this increasing liberality an evidence of increasing love to the cause of Christ, and of growing interest in the work of evangelizing the destitute portions of our country; also a ground of hope and confidence that the means will not be wanting, nor long wanting the men, for the prosecution of this work. The need of its energetic prosecution is very apparent from the Narratives. For example, while the Presbytery of Watertown is earnestly endeavoring to solve the problem of preserving the existence of its weakened churches, the Presbytery of Northern Missouri, with only three ministers for its nine churches, asks anxiously, "Are there no men so consecrated to the Lord as to come over and help us?" And the Presbytery of Union, with only seven ministers for its twenty-six churches, says with emphasis, "We need and must have more men."

The Presbytery of St. Louis, within whose bounds the Home Missionary Committee the last year expended $6000, affords an example of the need of a greatly increased outlay in the work of Church Erection. Of the thirteen churches of this Presbytery seven have no houses of worship. The Presbytery says: "There is little doubt that five of them would become almost immediately self-sustaining if furnished with church edifices." Without being thus furnished, however, there is little reason to hope that the large expenditure of the Home Missionary Committee will lead to any permanent results.

Missions to the Freedmen.

While there is felt to be a want of men, it is, perhaps, not sufficiently considered, that many earnest and faithful men are in want of prosperous congregations. The great success of the mission in Charleston—a success altogether without parallel among all our missionary churches—illustrates the truth that, besides the need of money and men, there is need also of a field not preoccupied and of a homogenous population, in order to the highest results. The want of Eastern churches weakened by emigration, and of many Western churches struggling for existence in fields held principally by other denominations, is a population that can be gathered into our congregations. The very marked success in Charleston seems to indicate that in the South, in a peculiar sense, "the harvest is plenteous;" and encourages the hope of the happiest results, from further efforts to carry the Gospel to the poor and destitute in that portion of our country.

Ministerial Support.

Some Presbyteries report an "increase of salaries," but, to a great extent, it is doubtless true that, in the words of the Presbytery of Bloomington, "The standard of ministerial salaries is not up to the necessities of the times." The Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage says: "Four pastors have resigned their charges and been dismissed. Three of these dismissions, at least, were in consequence of inadequate support. which is one of the most serious hindrances to the prosperity of our churches. It is much to be regretted that some way has not been devised in our Church by which a just compensation can be rendered to those who minister at her altars. The inadequacy of ministerial support has become a great and crying evil, which ought to be speedily removed."

Reunion with the Other Branch.

It is felt that old controversies, being dead, ought to be buried. The prevailing sentiment strongly favors Reunion, and happy results are expected from it. The Presbytery of Madison sees a "brightening prospect for its feeble churches," in "the changed and changing relations between our own and the other branch of the Presbyterian Church." The Presbytery of Greencastle says, "The life of some of our churches depends upon it." The Presbytery of Long Island expresses what seems to be the prevailing sentiment in the following language: "The Reunion of the two branches of our Church is desired by all the members of our congregations, without the exception, perhaps, of a single worshipper in our sanctuaries. We would not do evil to accomplish this Reunion, but we deem the separation a great sin. Worthy of reprobation only, in the present condition of our country, is the attempt to revive in our churches a theological and philosophical controversy, which the pulpit can scarcely ever have occasion even to touch. We prefer that belligerency should be turned against Romanism, atheism, and other powers of wickedness, and the manifest practical evils which spring from them."

Outward Reform.

There is an almost general awakening of interest in the cause of Temperance. The Narratives speak, in varying language, of a "fresh interest," of "a very considerable interest," of "a marked resuscitation," of "a decided movement," of a "thorough awakening," of "great exertions and sacrifices," of "vigorous measures to restrain and abolish the iniquitous traffic in intoxicating drinks." One Presbytery says, that "Revival has given an impetus to reform." The uniform representation is, that intemperance is prevalent, "alarmingly prevalent;" and, while in some congregations "no material progress" has been made, the position of the Church as a body, in relation to this great evil, is "firm and aggressive."

SUMMARY.

God has given us prosperity. It seems clear that we have, on the whole, been gaining ground, as a Church, the past year, and that our position is considerably in advance of that which we held a year ago. There is doubtless room for improvement. Far less has been done than should have been done. But we have been steadily advancing. Looking back over a few years, it is easy to see that a very remarkable change, a very remarkable improvement, has taken place. A new order of things has commenced with us. Having received a new baptism from on High, the Church has been invigorated with new strength and life. The old is passing away, and all things are becoming new. We have got into complete working order. Measures for enlargement, which were at first an experiment, have become a success, and are taking hold more and more strongly upon the confidence and affections of the great body of the Church. God smiles upon us. Having given us a great work to do, he has furnished us for doing it; and our great Master, who has guided us thus far and who is opening the way before us, is in his providences saying to us, "Go forward."

DELINQUENT PRESBYTERIES.

The Presbyteries, which have failed to report to the Assembly are those of Troy, Niagara, North River, Newark, Pittsburgh, Washtenaw, Maumee, Cincinnati, Ripley, Hamilton, Crawfordsville, Fox River, Chariton, Cedar Rapids, Minnesota, Osage, Kansas, Kingston, Holston, San Francisco, San José, and Washoe.

DECEASE OF MINISTERS.

The decease of twenty-nine ministers is reported as follows:

NAME.	AGE.	DATE.	PLACE.	PRESBYTERY.
Andrews, Wells	79	Feb. 14, 1867.	Washington, Ill	Bloomington.
Axtell, Anthony D	32	Oct. 17, 1866.	Olean, N. Y	Troy.
Brainerd, Thomas, D. D.	62	Aug. 22, 1866.	Scranton, Pa	Philadelphia, 4th.
Butler, Charles F	76	Aug. 13, 1866.	Bedford, N. Y	Utica.
Cheever, Ebenezer	76	Dec. 31, 1866.	Ypsilanti, Mich	Washtenaw.
Clark, Justus M	55	Feb. 10, 1867.	Ottawa, Ill	Ottawa.
Fancher. Ezra B	56	Jan. 27, 1867.	McGrawville, N. Y	Cortland.
Foot, George	67	May 3, 1867.	Odessa, Del	Wilmington.
Grieve, David H	29	Dec. 3, 1866.	Brownsville, Texas	New York, 4th.
Grosvenor, David A	64	Aug. 11, 1866.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Elyria.
Herritt, William	52	Jan. 19, 1867.	Quincy, Ill	Schuyler.
Holmes, Sylvester	78	Nov. 27, 1866.	New Bedford, Mass	Watertown.
Hoyt, James	48	Dec. 16, 1866.	Orange, N. J	Newark.
Johnston, Charles	78	Oct. 10, 1866.	Ovid, N. Y	Cayuga.
Kellogg, Robert R	53	Sept. 25, 1866.	Milford, Pa	Hudson.
Kerr, George, LL.D	52	Mch. 27, 1867.	Cooperstown, N. Y	Otsego.
Keys, John	88	Jan. 21, 1867.	Dover, Ohio	Cleveland and Portage.
King, John L	31	Nov. 10, 1866.	Denver, Col. Ter	Detroit.
Luther, Zebulon, M. P	53	May 22, 1866.	Elmer, N. J	Champlain.
Manley, Lyman	57	April 3, 1867.	Marion, N. Y	Lyons.
Osborn, Chauncey	55	Nov. 30, 1866.	Dearborn, Mich	Detroit.
Sharpe, Elias C.	53	Jan. 5, 1867.	Atwater, Ohio	Cleveland and Portage.
Squier, Miles P., D. D	77	June 22, 1866.	Geneva, N. Y	Geneva.
Starr, Frederick, Jr	41	Jan. 8, 1867.	St. Louis, Mo	St. Louis.
Tenney, Roswell	...	Aug. 7, 1866.	Marietta, Ohio	Athens.
Thompson, Manna	...	Feb. 26, 1866.	Berrien Springs, Mich	Kalamazoo.
Tompkins, John	56	Aug. 15, 1866.	Marcellus, N. Y	Cayuga.
Wolcott, William A	34	Nov. 29, 1866.	Pultney, N. Y	Steuben.
Young, Claiborne	66	Sept. 9, 1866.	Thorntown, Ind	Indianapolis.

By order of the General Assembly.

HENRY A. NELSON, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. OF THE SYNODS AND THEIR PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY..........	1803	5	80	1	13	67	488	206	8,337	1418	192	121	6,857	$419 13	$5,443	$3,660	$421	$243	$184	$138,615	$14,627	A.Bordman Lambert,D.D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	22	...	4	17	232	46	2,291	495	118	45	2,060	62 00	1,012	814	68	45	.....	23,725	2,044	Jonathan Copeland.
2. Troy	1820	...	25	1	5	18	53	46	2,237	543	25	23	2,003	142 45	1,528	1,013	162	92	119	43,138	9,260	A.Bordman Lambert,D.D.
3. Albany........................	1791	...	17	...	1	12	54	85	1,642	139	17	19	1,621	90 84	1,907	891	32	27	10	53,220	977	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia.....................	1802	...	6	...	1	6	22	8	818	111	4	12	520	49 50	145	497	58	20	43	6,035	771	Charles T. Berry.
5. Catskill.......................	1851	...	16	..	2	14	127	21	1,349	130	28	22	653	74 34	851	445	101	59	12	12,497	1,575	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA............	1829	4	81	2	12	71	673	270	7,573	202	267	151	7,403	491 43	6,002	4,314	1,777	639	937	69,579	16,684	William E. Knox, D. D.
1. St. Lawrence.................	1818	...	10	...	...	8	37	41	754	.....	9	7	547	41 00	506	513	12	44	14	7,628	951	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown....................	1822	...	21	...	4	19	190	46	1,774	83	84	44	1,639	131 00	765	781	214	51	140	15,502	2,509	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego........................	1823	...	9	...	...	10	100	24	1,000	7	53	23	970	95 88	299	378	40	211	36	8,415	818	J. Niles Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	41	2	8	34	346	159	4,045	112	121	77	4,247	223 55	4,432	2,642	1,511	333	747	38,034	12,406	Samuel W. Brace.
III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA...	1855	4	88	13	14	70	529	302	8,919	68	240	120	5,691	430 94	6,595	5,158	1,067	1833	153	62,050	13,302	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga.....................	1810	...	20	...	...	21	152	55	2,613	37	80	23	1,016	118 50	1,915	1,310	404	510	33	6,977	7,646	John F. Kendall.
2. Cayuga........................	1810	...	37	12	12	23	277	133	2,849	.....	105	56	2,357	177 24	2,809	1,798	372	262	70	31,197	3,376	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland......................	1825	...	10	...	1	15	52	35	1,674	.....	24	22	1,423	57 00	587	1,014	110	94	50	15,247	1,167	Huntington Lyman.
4. Tioga..........................	1829	...	21	1	1	11	48	79	1,783	31	31	19	895	78 20	1,284	1,036	181	967	.....	8,629	1,113	Solon Cobb.
IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.........	1812	6	101	2	15	91	1165	372	9,857	498	537	227	8,225	522 38	5,430	3,926	1,020	1238	166	111,714	8,626	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva........................	1805	...	36	1	5	18	364	128	2,703	206	169	74	2,566	149 59	2,045	1,653	168	144	153	29,300	2,736	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	13	...	3	19	115	34	1,597	77	46	34	1,353	89 28	389	212	136	50	3	20,736	301	William A. Niles.
3. Chemung.....................	1836	...	17	...	...	16	497	109	1,810	.....	227	49	1,303	84 00	1,191	919	434	831	.....	23,307	2,111	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca.........................	1839	...	8	1	4	9	53	38	1,276	33	35	23	773	73 74	918	573	232	9	.....	14,963	1,413	Theodore F. White.
5. Wellsborough.	1845	...	12	...	1	13	75	8	604	46	37	11	354	36 12	33	23	4	3	.....	3,189	129	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons..........................	1856	...	16	...	2	16	61	55	1,867	136	23	36	1,876	89 65	854	546	46	201	10	20,219	1,936	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.	1853	3	39	...	3	41	221	79	3,591	203	101	45	2,568	182 54	1,004	1,567	350	409	121	17,992	2,502	Samuel N. Robinson.
1. Otsego	1820	...	16	...	1	18	115	30	1,508	136	63	21	1,070	97 00	396	793	138	150	84	11,497	1,483	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	13	...	1	12	29	19	1,187	20	9	7	520	19 00	274	520	142	236	5	3,350	428	William H. Sautelle.
3. Delaware....................	1831	...	10	...	1	11	77	30	896	47	29	17	978	66 54	334	254	70	23	32	3,145	591	Leonard E. Richards.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.......	1821	6	138	6	14	103	1183	539	13,919	651	378	257	14,145	784	75	9,044	7,888	810	959	437	157,072	22,373	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo.........................	1817	...	46	1	8	28	396	156	3,917	181	65	74	2,773	219	00	3,728	2.845	320	468	115	46,224	7,090	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario.........................	1817	...	19	1	4	13	149	66	1,649	40	71	26	1,405	95	14	773	748	107	214	52	20,647	617	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester.....................	1819	...	29	4	1	17	227	110	3.322	213	89	58	4,508	193	44	1,747	2,774	238	71	8	28,115	9,895	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee.......................	1819	...	13	...	1	15	106	48	1,439	104	51	10	1,398	78	75	781	499	97	106	247	28,285	1,935	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara........................	1823	...	18	...	...	16	233	110	2,396	93	70	64	2,677	129	90	1,156	635	3	70	.....	20,601	1,737	Edward P. Marvin.
6. Genesee Valley...........	1828	...	13	...	...	11	72	49	1,196	20	32	25	1,384	68	52	859	387	45	30	15	13,200	1,099	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J....	1788	9	284	43	68	165	2148	1373	32,172	2268	651	806	30,608	1902	72	37,793	40,505	8,352	2864	2540	525,022	209,197	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson.........................	1797	...	16	...	4	12	83	49	1,694	.....	38	46	805	99	12	291	366	182	83	48	9,155	1,186	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River..................	1819	...	22	2	...	17	138	49	2,038	110	49	44	1,328	111	50	517	532	40	21	23	20,914	2,386	Francis B. Wheeler.
3. Long Island.	1791	...	9	...	...	6	7	6	672	1	3	18	689	41	40	231	302	11	108	17	9,785	349	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third........	1831	...	60	17	24	20	509	312	7,022	543	136	190	9,359	417	42	7,331	10,373	1,585	1427	1149	121,191	26,102	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth......	1845	...	46	14	24	15	308	293	4,423	826	80	153	3,937	265	00	14,059	15,874	3,346	574	550	138,830	111,588	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	28	1	...	9	242	176	3,642	368	75	120	3,247	187	86	7,230	3,721	1,546	127	.....	67,660	16,427	William S. Karr.
7. Newark.........................	1824	...	48	7	12	32	539	307	7,770	130	123	134	5,819	444	00	6,163	6.973	1,086	370	679	110,918	43,798	J. Allan Maxwell.
8. Rockaway.....................	1839	...	22	1	3	20	131	51	2,188	47	66	36	2,475	159	42	529	1,150	404	78	50	22,814	1,953	Burtjs C. Megie.
9. Montrose......................	1832	...	33	1	1	34	191	130	2,723	243	81	65	2,949	177	00	1,442	1,214	152	76	24	23,755	5,408	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	113	7	25	89	1205	640	16,342	678	278	665	18,258	1008	34	13,274	13,731	3,050	2986	2414	262,854	60,759	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington.................	1833	...	14	...	1	17	136	76	1,884	41	32	66	2,282	104	10	1,134	665	147	100	161	19,038	1,544	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third...	1832	...	35	1	3	24	364	205	4,648	350	69	264	5,566	265	00	3,611	5,250	559	665	698	89,805	45,534	J. Glentworth Butler, D.D.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth..	1845	...	43	3	12	30	347	251	6,691	240	109	238	7,077	387	24	2,685	4,743	1,502	643	850	78,326	9,710	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	13	1	5	9	93	49	1,365	3	19	34	1,689	117	00	5,307	2,262	782	1518	559	49,350	1,378	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia...	1831	...	8	2	4	9	265	59	1,754	44	49	63	1,644	135	00	537	811	60	60	146	26,335	2,593	William McLain, D. D.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN..	1843	3	30	1	5	31	468	175	3,709	81	188	128	3,643	204	78	5,871	2,618	2,182	291	134	80,889	8,121	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	14	...	1	13	247	81	1,731	34	132	41	1,748	98	52	484	551	144	234	129	21,848	1,487	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville....................	1842	...	10	...	1	13	114	64	1,097	.....	36	60	893	55	92	767	210	141	49	.....	10.979	1,105	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh..................	1839	...	6	1	3	5	107	30	881	47	20	27	1,002	50	34	4,620	1,857	1,897	8	5	48,062	5,529	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	116	5	13	124	953	681	10,472	337	432	256	12,060	637	93	5,329	3,370	1,338	532	372	120,581	8,197	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit.........................	1826	...	21	1	5	20	224	121	1,758	50	79	60	1,802	121	00	1,890	836	506	39	74	24,393	1,799	William A. McCorkle.
2. Monroe	1833	...	12	...	1	17	84	59	1,460	42	30	28	1,125	81	00	701	461	52	47	.....	20,116	394	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall.....	1838	...	10	...	1	10	63	46	1,102	36	36	11	1,055	64	25	385	243	64	31	4	8,383	110	Loomis Chandler.
4. Washtenaw..	1838	...	12	2	3	8	62	72	1,249	75	39	28	2,019	68	00	375	391	136	57	19	8,141	338	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo..................	1838	...	15	1	...	16	116	89	1,515	94	58	41	1,732	109	00	675	738	297	112	105	15,130	3,095	Job Pierson.
6. Coldwater....................	1856	...	13	...	...	12	82	70	1,195	36	38	20	1,478	69	00	375	229	69	59	65	14,994	475	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	16	1	1	17	117	114	1,038	.....	55	28	1,318	72	50	607	248	97	138	25	16,607	822	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley....	1857	...	12	...	1	13	71	38	573	4	14	22	801	29	22	142	99	71	5	48	7,057	723	George Ransom.
9. Lansing.......................	1866	...	5	...	1	11	134	72	582	.....	83	18	700	23	96	179	125	46	44	32	5,760	441	J. Evarts Weed.
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE.	1825	5	96	3	26	75	628	324	6,887	206	247	200	7,548	383	91	2,965	4,975	2,189	560	369	100,804	8,567	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River...............	1814	...	8	...	...	5	34	11	426	.....	20	13	100	26	35	262	126	44	30	.....	2,221	569	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	23	...	7	18	100	67	1,534	42	38	38	2,035	82	60	358	738	231	95	44	15,949	1,109	Alfred Newton, D. D.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
3. Trumbull	1827	...	13	1	1	16	64	52	1,331	39	25	37	1,420	$80 18	$221	$830	$511	$45	$70	$19,372	$1,764	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland and Portage	1830	...	44	2	16	24	260	111	2,617	117	98	68	2,882	147 78	2,008	2,710	512	75	86	47,034	3,744	James Shaw, D. D.
5. Maumee	1842	...	8	...	2	12	170	83	979	8	66	44	1,111	47 00	116	571	891	315	169	16,228	1,381	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO	1814	4	50	6	9	65	312	207	4,568	106	84	133	5,208	276 30	2,681	2,899	1,279	225	318	56,328	10,523	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	13	4	4	17	51	46	851	15	16	22	984	52 80	286	201	93	40	30	9,395	494	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	...	3	23	135	69	1,620	47	30	67	1,859	110 00	760	848	803	15	169	16,887	2,217	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	12	1	1	16	69	61	1,335	27	24	20	1,231	67 50	590	759	216	33	42	10,799	444	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	8	1	1	9	57	31	762	17	14	24	1,134	46 00	1,045	1,091	167	137	77	19,247	7,368	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	1829	4	58	5	1	47	270	168	3,844	89	82	148	3,593	256 26	2,610	3,019	2,515	537	437	56,235	12,739	Joseph Chester.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	28	1	...	16	69	78	1,573	32	10	82	1,968	102 90	1,354	1,950	2,077	239	338	32,252	5,628	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	8	...	...	11	123	21	771	14	39	23	580	51 36	128	113	88	......	.....	2,335	102	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	..	9	...	...	10	52	47	851	43	26	31	1,015	55 00	610	532	255	140	99	17,898	6,346	Daniel M. Moore.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	13	4	1	10	26	22	649	.....	7	12	......	47 00	518	424	95	158	.....	3,750	663	John Hussey.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA	1826	4	42	3	6	58	266	183	4,134	147	86	133	4,220	239 99	2,725	3,232	14,650	469	263	69,105	7,351	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	...	1	12	72	40	1,096	42	27	53	1,415	62 52	773	1,045	165	183	182	15,632	5,397	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	12	1	2	15	45	34	1,027	93	7	24	995	60 80	869	507	2,471	70	2	10,009	286	Archibald S. Reid.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	11	2	3	15	93	64	1,210	.....	30	19	1,165	70 92	833	1,365	11,936	141	68	38,199	1,260	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	10	...	...	16	56	45	801	12	22	37	645	45 75	250	315	78	75	11	5,265	408	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH	1851	4	36	4	7	55	324	160	3,280	37	151	91	3,160	190 02	972	924	238	173	135	26,376	7,309	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	13	1	4	12	110	32	686	3	47	7	480	34 20	148	242	27	6	39	2,016	....	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	8	...	1	14	44	30	849	14	20	17	995	50 10	192	222	79	30	5	6,357	937	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	2	2	20	80	52	1,150	.....	36	28	950	69 72	526	373	118	97	21	10,000	6,282	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	7	1	...	9	90	46	595	20	48	39	735	36 00	106	87	11	40	70	8,003	90	William J. Essick.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS	1831	4	87	1	2	95	653	453	5,764	276	232	200	6,711	309 53	3,358	1,450	717	965	236	82,637	12,057	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	...	...	20	178	91	1,655	14	62	67	1,315	100 00	594	575	422	524	37	26,290	4,801	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	17	...	...	19	166	91	1,436	112	68	34	1,675	71 16	500	404	113	62	14	11,030	1,560	George I. King, D. D.
3. Wabash	1833	...	17	...	1	17	106	102	864	25	47	37	1,380	40 02	464	161	17	17	146	9,549	1,216	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	35	1	1	39	203	169	1,809	125	55	62	2,341	98 35	1,800	310	165	362	39	35,768	4,480	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA	1843	5	103	2	15	67	534	589	6,556	400	190	222	10,327	413 63	5,251	4,850	1,079	462	87	239,782	22,632	Zeph. M. Humphrey, D.D.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	14	...	...	9	30	21	358	.....	13	7	445	38 25	58	93	32	12	25	9,963	135	Nahum Gould.

2. Knox	1836	...	15	1	10	6	42	43	766	30	13	33	945	43 86	418	318	105	24	.....	9,996	11,850	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena and Belvidere.	1842	...	25	...	...	22	154	104	1,573	88	60	45	2,012	87 96	823	444	137	103	36	35,511	1,046	Eugene H. Avery.
4. Chicago	1847	...	39	1	4	19	215	323	2,936	249	64	111	6,100	188 00	3,682	3,855	727	310	.....	168,197	8,969	Edward A. Pierce.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	10	...	1	11	93	98	923	33	40	26	825	55 56	270	140	78	13	26	16,115	632	John Maclean.
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN...	1857	4	44	1	2	35	125	98	1,640	40	30	71	2,782	98 19	823	346	81	22	61	21,415	1,923	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	14	...	...	9	26	21	642	25	1	23	1,010	38 76	239	65	30	5	54	6,488	388	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851	...	10	...	...	7	24	25	362	2	11	11	509	24 90	158	53	15	......	.....	3,199	725	Silas H. Ashmun.
3. Columbus	1857	...	13	...	1	13	45	42	469	13	13	31	748	26 53	296	118	18	......	7	7,558	176	Benjamin G. Riley.
4. Lake Superior	1857	...	7	1	1	6	30	10	167	.....	5	6	515	8 00	130	110	18	17	.....	4,170	634	Cicero B. Stevens.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA	1853	6	60	2	8	60	297	349	2,733	114	87	105	2,874	135 45	785	484	107	253	29	46,604	3,268	Hannibal L. Stanley.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	9	1	2	10	79	62	468	.....	27	27	390	23 22	175	76	......	29	.....	10,436	594	Thompson Bird.
2. Keokuk	1852	...	7	...	...	4	55	59	331	56	15	16	645	21 11	150	80	......	......	1	1,977	379	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City	1852	...	12	...	2	9	32	25	226	2	18	13	315	16 62	47	30	5	......	.....	1,767	255	Samuel Storrs Howe.
4. Dubuque	1855	...	15	...	1	16	91	71	739	31	11	16	490	39 20	166	90	75	26	7	21,312	720	Stephen Phelps.
5. Chariton *	1857	...	3	...	...	7	.....	.....	315	....	.....	.....	......	....	....	....	......	......	.....	....	....	Milton H. Dysart.
6. Cedar Rapids	1865	...	14	1	3	14	40	132	654	25	16	33	1,034	35 30	247	208	27	198	21	11,112	1,320	James Knox.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA...	1858	3	34	4	2	33	164	157	1,668	.....	86	72	2,064	91 90	519	485	219	169	11	8,832	1,809	Charles S. Le Due.
1. Dakota	1846	...	16	4	2	13	67	101	811	.....	35	45	645	46 02	61	54	7	10	11	3,426	103	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	12	...	...	12	44	25	506	.....	18	11	959	29 90	417	370	29	46	.....	4,620	1,676	John Mattocks.
3. Winona	1857	...	6	...	...	8	53	31	351	.....	33	16	460	15 98	41	61	183	113	.....	786	30	Joseph W. Hancock.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI....	1832	5	41	3	6	52	92	180	1,506	28	30	46	1,678	89 63	1,783	576	210	182	110	38,134	640	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	15	...	2	13	51	44	653	12	10	22	793	49 00	1,431	454	183	102	110	24,534	229	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	5	...	...	9	5	34	233	.....	4	6	430	14 15	155	37	......	......	.....	6,210	100	Elijah A. Carson.
3. Lexington	1842	...	8	...	4	9	14	29	238	1	8	15	335	10 60	111	50	27	65	.....	4,065	311	James A. Darrah.
4. Osage	1845	...	4	1	...	5	8	23	113	15	4	3	120	....	....	....	......	15	.....	2,200	....	William S. Messmer.
5. Kansas	1859	...	9	2	...	16	14	50	269	.....	4	.....	......	15 88	86	35	......	......	.....	1,125	....	William H. Smith.
XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.	1817	3	20	...	7	46	260	22	2,858	70	118	92	1,577	263 32	75	97	25	80	.....	7,172	....	Thomas J. Lamar.
1. Union	1797	...	8	...	7	24	115	16	1,773	70	64	61	1,172	104 76	71	97	25	......	.....	6,016	....	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston	1838	...	4	...	...	10	22	3	440	.....	5	6	220	24 90	4	....	......	80	.....	650	....	William B. Brown.
3. Holston	1865	...	8	...	...	12	123	3	645	.....	49	25	185	33 66	....	....	......	......	.....	506	....	Samuel V. McCorkle.
XXIII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA.	1857	4	29	1	...	20	295	109	1,210	53	101	98	2,042	70 00	428	275	5	5	3	42,968	1,508	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	8	1	...	3	65	44	392	35	20	14	550	16 00	158	181	......	......	.....	17,433	1,004	David McClure.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	5	...	...	4	89	5	256	18	28	22	520	25 00	110	25	......	......	.....	11,200	233	Charles C. Wallace.
3. San José	1857	...	12	...	...	10	129	50	486	.....	47	50	905	24 00	155	64	......	......	.....	9,600	271	George Pierson, M. D.
4. Washoe	1863	...	4	...	...	3	12	10	76	.....	6	12	67	5 00	5	5	5	5	3	4,735	....	Albert F. White.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.							
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	80	1	13	67	488	206	8,337	1418	192	121	6,857	$419 13	$5,443	$3,660	$421	$243	$184	$138,615	$14,627
2. Utica	1829	4	81	2	12	71	673	270	7,573	202	267	151	7,403	491 43	6.002	4,314	1,777	639	937	69,579	16,684
3. Onondaga	1855	4	88	13	14	70	529	302	8,919	68	240	120	5,691	430 94	6,595	5,158	1,067	1,833	153	62,050	13.302
4. Geneva	1812	6	101	2	15	91	1,165	372	9,857	498	537	227	8,225	522 38	5,430	3,926	1,020	1,238	166	111,714	8,626
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	39	...	3	41	221	79	3,591	203	101	45	2,568	182 54	1,004	1,567	350	409	121	17,992	2,502
6. Genesee	1821	6	138	6	14	103	1,183	539	13,919	651	378	257	14,145	784 75	9.044	7,888	810	959	437	157,072	22,373
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	384	43	68	165	2,148	1373	32,172	2268	651	806	30,608	1902 72	37,793	40,505	8,352	2,864	2540	525,022	209,197
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	113	7	25	89	1,205	640	16,342	678	278	665	18,258	1008 34	13,274	13,731	3,050	2,986	2414	262,854	60,759
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	30	1	5	31	468	175	3,709	81	188	128	3,643	204 78	5,871	2,618	2,182	291	134	80,889	8,121
10. Michigan	1834	9	116	5	13	124	953	681	10,472	337	432	256	12,060	637 93	5,329	3,370	1,338	532	372	120,581	8,197
11. Western Reserve	1825	5	96	3	26	75	628	324	6,887	206	247	200	7,548	383 91	2,965	4,975	2,189	560	369	100,804	8,567
12. Ohio	1814	4	50	6	9	65	312	207	4,568	106	84	133	5,208	276 30	2,681	2,899	1,279	225	318	56,328	10,523
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	58	5	1	47	270	168	3,844	89	82	148	3,593	256 26	2,610	3,019	2,515	537	437	56,235	12,739
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	3	6	58	266	183	4,134	147	86	133	4,220	239 99	2,725	3,232	14,650	469	263	69,105	7,351
15. Wabash	1851	4	36	4	7	55	324	160	3,280	37	151	91	3,160	190 02	972	924	238	173	135	26,376	7,309
16. Illinois	1831	4	87	1	2	95	653	453	5,764	276	232	200	6,711	309 53	3.358	1,450	717	965	236	82,637	12.057
17. Peoria	1843	5	103	2	15	67	534	589	6,556	400	190	222	10,327	413 63	5,251	4,850	1,079	462	87	239,782	22,632
18. Wisconsin	1857	4	44	1	2	35	125	98	1,640	40	30	71	2,782	98 19	823	346	81	22	61	21.415	1,923
19. Iowa	1853	6	60	2	8	60	297	349	2,733	114	87	105	2,874	135 45	785	484	107	253	29	46,604	3,268
20. Minnesota	1858	3	34	4	2	33	164	157	1,668	.....	86	72	2,064	91 90	519	485	219	169	11	8,832	1,809
21. Missouri	1832	5	41	3	6	52	92	180	1,506	28	30	46	1,678	89 63	1,783	576	210	182	110	38,134	640
22. Tennessee	1817	3	20	...	7	46	260	22	2,858	70	118	92	1,577	263 32	75	97	25	80	.....	7,172	
23. Alta California	1857	4	29	1	...	20	295	109	1,210	53	101	98	2,042	70 00	428	275	5	5	3	42,968	1,508
		109	1870	115	273	1560	13,253	7636	161,539	7970	4788	4387	163,242	$9403 07	$120,760	$110,349	$43,681	$15,996	$9517	$2,342,760	$454,714

MINUTES, 1868.

Harrisburgh, Pa., May 21st, 1868.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church of the city of Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, the 21st of May, 1868, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Galatians 5 : 13: For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the morning session open at 8½ o'clock A. M., and close at 12 o'clock M., that the afternoon session open at 3 o'clock P. M., and close at 5½ o'clock P. M.; that the evening services commence at 7½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be occupied with devotional exercises. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [4]

Thursday, May 21st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	Edwin A. Bulkley,	William V. K. McLean,
2. *Troy,*	Laurens P. Hickok, D. D.,	Orlando J. Greene,
	Joshua B. Hall,	George N. Bates.
3. *Albany,*	John R. Young,	Hon. Fred'k H. Hastings.
4. *Columbia,*	John McVey.	
5. *Catskill,*	V. Leroy Lockwood.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	Newton J. Conklin.	
2. *Watertown,*	Willard M. Hoyt,	James K. Bates, M. D.
3. *Oswego,*	Charles J. Hutchings,	J. Gilbert Benedict.
4. *Utica,*	Samuel W. Fisher, D. D.,	Abner Gardner.
	Chester W. Hawley,	

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga,*	John S. Bacon,	Samuel P. Hayden.
2. *Cayuga,*	Edwin Hall, D. D.,	Josiah P. Bailey,
	Almon R. Hewitt,	Silas L. Bradley (2).
3. *Cortland,*	Huntington Lyman,	Freeman Stebbins.
4. *Tioga,*	George N. Boardman, D. D.	

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	Josephus D. Krum,	Stephen M. Whitaker,
	A. Augustus Wood, D. D.,	Charles H. Hale.
2. *Steuben*,	Mills B. Gelston,	Benjamin Farwell.
3. *Chemung*,	Darwin Chichester,	Adna Ayers.
4. *Ithaca*,	William K. Platt.	
5. *Wellsborough*,	Elisha B. Benedict,	Harris T. Ryon.
6. *Lyons*,	George R. H. Shumway,	Lewis H. Clark.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Samuel N. Robinson,	Warren Lyon.
2. *Chenango*,	John L. Jones (2),	Amasa J. Hoyt.
3. *Delaware*,	Andrew Montgomery,	Benjamin Cannon.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Timothy Stillman, D. D.,	Thomas Farnham,
	John M. Ballou,	George W. Tew,
	William Waith,	Wareham K. Cook (3).
2. *Ontario*,	Pliny F. Sanborn,	John T. Van Nest.
3. *Rochester*,	Charles E. Furman,	Edwin T. Huntington,
	Henry M. Morey,	Ralph Thatcher, M. D.
4. *Genesee*,	Charles F. Mussey,	Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.
5. *Niagara*,	Thomas Doggett,	Charles H. West.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Philander Camp,	George Karr. [5]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Nathaniel E. Pierson,	James M. Reeve.
2. *North River*,	George R. Ferguson,	Newton Reed.
3. *Long Island*,	Edward Stratton,	Ira Tuthill.
4. *New York*, 3d,	Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.,	William C. Foote,
	T. Ralston Smith, D. D.,	Merrill N. Hutchinson.
	John De Witt,	
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	Hon. William E. Dodge,
	George L. Prentiss, D. D.,	Oliver E. Wood.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	Hon. Edward A. Lambert,
	Jos. T. Duryea, D. D. (2),	Henry Ide.
7. *Newark*,	Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.,	Jeremiah Baker,
	Robert Aikman,	Moses A. Peck,
	Arthur Mitchell,	Frederick C. Hexamer.
8. *Rockaway*,	Robert S. Feagles,	William H. Kitchell.
9. *Montrose*,	Jacob Best,	Stephen D. Ward,
	Bentley S. Foster,	William Wright.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	D. Hopkins Emerson,	James M. Vandegrift.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3d,	J. Glentworth Butler, D. D.,	Benedict D. Stewart,
	Samuel W. Crittenden,	Edward Miller.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Elias J. Richards,	Samuel T. Bodine,
	William T. Eva,	Abner Lincoln.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William Tracy,	Robert J. Fleming.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	John C. Smith, D. D. (2),	Julius A. Fay.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	Joseph Vance,	Johnston Rea.
2. *Meadville*,	David M. Rankin,	Samuel Minor.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Frederick A. Noble,	Richard Edwards.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	William A. McCorkle,	Elisha Taylor.
2. *Monroe*,	William H. Webb,	Hon. Charles Noble.
3. *Marshall*,	James Walker,	Andrew G. Irwin.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Ira M. Weed,	Daniel B. Green (3).
5. *Kalamazoo*,	T. Dwight Hunt,	Eli R. Miller.
6. *Coldwater*,	Charles S. Adams,	John Chandler.
7. *Saginaw*,	J. Ambrose Wight,	Hon. Hiram L. Miller.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Joseph T. Willett,	John D. McNaughton.
9. *Lansing*,	C. Solon Armstrong,	Enoch Eddy.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Justus L. Janes,	John P. Robertson.
2. *Huron*,	Delos E. Wells,	James Boyd.
3. *Trumbull*,	Henry B. Eldred,	Thomas Kinsman.
4. *Cleveland and Portage*,	Ansel R. Clark, Fergus L. Kenyon,	Samuel H. Mather, Joseph Perkins (3).
5. *Maumee*,	E. Judson Alden,	David Smith. [6]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Warren Taylor,	Sala Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala*,	David E. Beach,	Matthew Newkirk (2).
3. *Franklin*,	Edward D. Morris, D. D.,	Henry M. Alberry.
4. *Scioto*,	A. Alexander Jimeson.	

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	John Rankin, Luman A. Aldrich,	William H. Moore.
2. *Ripley*,	James R. Gibson,	William B. Campbell,
3. *Dayton*,	Daniel M. Moore,	Thomas J. Orbison (2).
4. *Hamilton*,	Evan L. Davies,	David Oliver, M. D.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Horace C. Hovey,	Richard Owen.
2. *Madison*,	John P. Haire,	Abraham B. Haines.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Charles H. Marshall,	John L. Ketcham.
4. *Green Castle*,	Henry S. Little,	Enos Miles.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D.,	Alexander Thomson.
2. *St. Joseph*,	John B. Fowler.	
3. *Logansport*,	Adolphus S. Dudley,	Stewart T. McConnell.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	William J. Essick,	Daniel S. Beaver.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	J. Rogers Armstrong,	George E. Morehouse.
2. *Schuyler*,	John G. Rankin.	
3. *Wabash*,	Garnett A. Pollock,	Thomas H. West.
4. *Alton*,	Willard P. Gibson,	Francis W. Lytle, M. D.,
	Augustus T. Norton,	George S. Smith.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	James H. Burns,	Robert W. Moore.
2. *Knox*,	George Duffield, Jr.,	Cephas Arms.
3. *Galena and Belvidere*,	George M. Jenks,	John Adams,
	Eugene H. Avery,	Sidney Avery.
4. *Chicago*,	Rob't W. Patterson, D. D.,	
	Arthur Swazey.	
5. *Bloomington*,	Charles D. Nott,	Luman W. Capen.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	Hiram Eddy.	
2. *Fox River*,	John H. Walker,	Nathaniel Frank.
3. *Columbus*,	Francis Z. Rossiter,	Andrew G. Riley, M. D.
4. *Lake Superior*,	Cicero B. Stevens,	Amos R. Harlow (3).

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	William Campbell (2).	
2. *Keokuk*,	William G. Kephart,	Charles A. Beckley.
3. *Iowa City*,	Alexander Porter,	Robert McKee.
4. *Dubuque*,	German H. Chatterton,	Arthur Morrison.
5. *Chariton*,		William D. Evans.
6. *Cedar Rapids*,	George D. Young,	Stephen K. Tourtellot.
7. *Omaha*,	Francis M. Dimmick,	John R. Meredith (7). [7]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Mankato*,	Lyman Marshall,	Uri Hill.
2. *Minnesota*,	Albert G. Ruliffson,	H. Knox Taylor.
3. *Winona*,	Jesse L. Howell.	
4. *Dakota*,	Thomas S. Williamson.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.,	Edward M. Avery.
2. *North'n Missouri*,	James A. Darrah,	James C. Agnew (3).
3. *Lexington*,	Timothy Hill,	John DeClue.
4. *Osage*,	John M. Brown.	
5. *Kansas*,	Franklin E. Sheldon,	Jason Yurann.

XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	James A. Griffes,	William B. Minnis.
2. *Kingston*,	Thomas Brown,	James Gettys.
3. *Holston*,	James G. Mason,	Richard P. Mitchell, M. D.

XXIII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *San Francisco,*	William W. Macomber.	
2. *Sierra Nevada,*	Charles C. Wallace,	Edward B. Conklin.
3. *San José,*	Lemuel P. Webber,	Henry Johnson.
4. *Washoe,*	William M. Martin (5).	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the other Branch,*	Rev. Richard H. Richardson, D. D., and Hon. Henry W. Green, LL.D.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,*	Rev. John S. Easton, D. D.
4. *General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.*	
5. *General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.*	
6. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America,*	Rev. J. Romeyn Berry, D. D.
7. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*	
8. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	
9. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,*	Rev. George F. Stelling. [8]
10. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.*	
11. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
12. *General Convention of Vermont.*	
13. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts.*	
14. *General Association of Connecticut.*	
15. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
16. *Union of Evangelical Churches of France.*	

The Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. Timothy Stillman, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, and the Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Third, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

The reception of the Synodical Records, and of all papers intended for the Assembly, was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

It was Ordered, That the reports of the Standing Committees be presented and considered on the following days: On Foreign Missions, Monday, May 25th, at 10 o'clock A. M.; on Education, Monday, at 3½ o'clock P. M.; on Publication, Tuesday, May 26th, at 10½ o'clock A. M.; on Home Missions and Church Erection, Wednesday, May 27th, at 10 o'clock A. M.; on Ministerial Relief, Thursday, May 28th, at 10½ o'clock A. M.; and on Sabbath-schools, Thursday, at 3½ o'clock P. M.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Benedict D. Stewart and Edward A. Lambert, as an *Auditing Committee.*

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The annual reports of the Permanent Committees on Publication, Home Missions, and Education, were read, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Nominations, the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., of the Presbytery of Albany, was appointed to represent this body in the General Assembly, now in session at Albany; and the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, was appointed to represent this [9] body in the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D., John Rankin, George N. Boardman, D. D., George R. H. Shumway, William A. McCorkle, Cicero B. Stevens. *Elders*—Hon. Frederick H. Hastings, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, Oliver E. Wood, Cephas Arms, Elisha Taylor.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Henry B. Smith, D. D., LL.D., Robert Aikman, Samuel W. Crittenden, Thomas Doggett, Ansel R. Clark, Horace C. Hovey. *Elders*—Edward Miller, Hon. Charles Noble, Stewart T. McConnell, Richard P. Mitchell, M. D., Luman W. Capen.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Elias J. Richards, Charles E. Furman, William T. Eva, William J. Essick, Francis M. Dimmick. *Elders*—Benedict D. Stewart, Edward M. Avery, Robert McKee, Francis W. Lytle, M. D., George W. Tew.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., LL.D., William Tracy, Charles F. Mussey, V. Leroy Lockwood, Charles H. Marshall, Willard P. Gibson. *Elders*—Orlando J. Greene, Ralph Thatcher, M. D., Samuel Minor, Enos Miles, Uri Hill.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., LL.D., Darwin Chichester, Arthur Mitchell, William Waith, Charles J. Hutchins, J. Rogers Armstrong. *Elders*—Julius A. Fay, William C. Foote, Lewis H. Clark, Hon. Hiram L. Miller, Sala Bosworth. [10]

6. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Augustus T. Norton, Frederick A. Noble, Timothy Hill, Lemuel P. Webber, Thomas Brown.

Elders—Samuel T. Bodine, Edwin T. Huntington, Andrew G. Riley, M. D., Samuel H. Mather, Henry M. Alberry.

7. *Publication. Ministers*—Robert W. Patterson, D. D., D. Hopkins Emerson, John R. Young, Samuel N. Robinson, Nathaniel E. Pierson, James Walker. *Elders*—James K. Bates, M. D., Charles H. West, Merrill N. Hutchinson, Alexander Thompson, H. Knox Taylor.

8. *Church Erection. Ministers*—George L. Prentiss, D. D., Authur Swazey, T. Dwight Hunt, Edwin A. Bulkley, Albert G. Ruliffson, Luman A. Aldrich. *Elders*—Hon. Edward A. Lambert, Thomas Farnham, Richard Edwards, Josiah P. Bailey, John L. Ketcham.

9. *Sabbath-schools. Ministers*—George Duffield, Jr., Chester W. Hawley, Pliny F. Sanborn, Ira M. Weed, Willard M. Hoyt, John G. Rankin. *Elders*—William V. K. McLean, Freeman Stebbins, Moses A. Peck, Abner Lincoln, Daniel S. Beaver.

10. *Ministerial Relief. Ministers*—Edwin Hall, D. D., Mills B. Gellston, Joseph T. Willett, James R. Gibson, Eugene H. Avery, German H. Chatterton. *Elders*—Hon. William E. Dodge, J. Gilbert Benedict, Amasa J. Hoyt, Newton Reed, Andrew G. Irwin.

11. *Narrative of Religion. Ministers*—Edward D. Morris, D. D., Henry M. Morey, Edward Stratton, Joseph Vance, C. Solon Armstrong, Charles D. Nott. *Elders*—Samuel P. Hayden, Benjamin Farwell, William H. Kitchell, John Chandler, Abraham B. Haines.

12. *Mileage of Commissioners. Elders*—Stephen D. Ward, Henry Ide, William H. Moore. [11]

13. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—A. Augustus Wood, D. D., John DeWitt, Huntington Lyman, John McVey, Charles S. Adams, Henry B. Eldred. *Elders*—Robert J. Fleming, Warren Lyon, James M. Vandegrift, John P. Robertson, David Oliver, M. D.

14. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Charles C. Wallace, Warren Taylor, Adolphus S. Dudley, Newton J. Conklin, George R. Ferguson, Justus L. Janes. *Elders*—William B. Minnis, Arthur Morrison, John Adams, William B. Campbell, Enoch Eddy.

Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany. Ministers*—Andrew Montgomery, John M. Ballou, David M. Rankin. *Elders*—James M. Reeve, Jeremiah Baker.

2. *Synod of Utica. Ministers*—Philander Camp, Robert S. Feagles, Jacob Best. *Elders*—Benjamin Cannon, John T. Van Nest.

3. *Synod of Onondaga. Ministers*—Bentley S. Foster, William H. Webb, Delos E. Wells. *Elders*—George Carr, Ira Tuthill.

4. *Synod of Geneva. Ministers*—Fergus L. Kenyon, David E. Beach, Daniel M. Moore. *Elders*—Johnston Rea, William Wright.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna. Ministers*—Almon R. Hewitt, Elisha B. Benedict, E. Judson Alden. *Elders*—George N. Bates, Abner Gardner.

6. *Synod of Genesee. Ministers*—Josephus D. Krum, A. Alexander Jimeson, John P. Haire. *Elders*—Adna Ayers, John D. McNaughton.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Henry S. Little, John B. Fowler, Evan L. Davies. *Elders*—Thomas Kinsman, Eli R. Miller.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Garnet A. Pollock, James H. Burns, Hiram Eddy. *Elders*—George E. Morehouse, Robert W. Moore. [12]

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—George M. Jenks, John H. Walker, William G. Kephart. *Elders*—James Gettys, William D. Evans.

10. *Synod of Michigan. Ministers*—Francis Z. Rossiter, Alexander Porter, Lyman Marshall. *Elders*—Samuel Minor, Abner Lincoln.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve. Ministers*—James A. Darrah, Jesse L. Howell, James A. Griffes. *Elders*—Moses A. Peck, Thomas H. West.

12. *Synod of Ohio. Ministers*—John M. Brown, James G. Mason, William W. Macomber. *Elders*—Newton Reed, James Boyd.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati. Ministers*—V. Leroy Lockwood, Charles J. Hutchins, Huntington Lyman. *Elders*—William H. Kitchell, Frederick C. Hexamer.

14. *Synod of Indiana. Ministers*—George R. H. Shumway, Andrew Montgomery, Charles F. Mussey. *Elders*—Lewis H. Clark, Freeman Stebbins.

15. *Synod of Wabash. Ministers*—John De Witt, D. Hopkins Emerson, Joseph Vance. *Elders*—Henry Johnson, Cephas Arms.

16. *Synod of Illinois. Ministers*—Arthur Mitchell, T. Dwight Hunt, Timothy Stillman, D. D. *Elders*—Edward B. Conklin, Richard P. Mitchell, M. D.

17. *Synod of Peoria. Ministers*—Frederick A. Noble, Augustus T. Norton, Horace C. Hovey. *Elders*—Samuel T. Bodine, Elisha Taylor.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin. Ministers*—William J. Essick, George Duffield, Jr., John G. Rankin. *Elders*—Stephen K. Tourtellot, Jason Yurann.

19. *Synod of Iowa. Ministers*—J. Rogers Armstrong, Eugene H. Avery, Cicero B. Stevens. *Elders*—John DeClue, Francis W. Lytle, M. D.

20. *Synod of Minnesota. Ministers*—Timothy Hill, Edward D. Morris, D. D., Francis M. Dimmick. *Elders*—Nathaniel Frank, Charles A. Beckley.

21. *Synod of Missouri. Ministers*—Edwin A. Bulkley, Chester W. Hawley, A. Augustus Wood, D. D. *Elders*—Charles H. Hale, Sidney Avery. [13]

22. *Synod of Tennessee. Ministers*—Edward Stratton, William A. McCorkle, T. Ralston Smith, D. D. *Elders*—Harris T. Ryon, George S. Smith.

23. *Synod of Alta California. Ministers*—John McVey, Mills B. Gelston, Thomas Doggett. *Elders*—Stephen M. Whitaker, David Smith.

The Records of the Synods, the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers from the Presbyteries, were received and appropriately referred.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was read and referred to the Corresponding Standing Committee.

The Committee appointed by the General Assembly of 1866, and continued by the Assembly of 1867, to confer with a similar Committee of the other Assembly in regard to the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, presented a report, which was referred to a Special Committee of Nine, to be appointed by the Moderator.

The Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., a member of the Committee on Reunion, by unanimous consent, presented a paper embodying the reasons for his dissent from certain portions of their report. The paper was referred to the Special Committee of Nine.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had found the accounts of the Treasurer correct; they recommended its approval, and that it be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes. The report was adopted.

The annual reports of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, and of the Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools, were read, and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

The Rev. John S. Easton, D. D., the Delegate of the General [14] Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 8½ o'clock to-morrow.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture from the church of Covington, in the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, embodying the following resolutions:

1. When a church that owned a house of worship has become extinct, is it the duty of the Presbytery to take charge of said house and use or dispose of it for the benefit of the denomination, the laws of the State not forbidding it?

2. Have any but the members of a church the right to vote in the election of its trustees?

3. Have any but the members of a church the right to vote upon the relocation of its house of worship?

4. When a member, without asking for a letter, joins the church of another denomination, is it the duty of the session to strike his name from the Roll?

The Committee recommended the following answers: To the first question, by advising the memorialist to refer the question to the Presbytery to take legal counsel and act in the premises as may seem wise. To the second and third questions, by referring the memorialist to the laws of the State applicable thereto. To the fourth question, by referring to the action of the Assembly of 1853, (see Digest, pp. 41, 42, 45,) in respect to absent members and members withdrawing in a disorderly manner from their church relations.

The report was adopted.

The Moderator announced as the *Special Committee on Reunion*, Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, DD., LL.D., Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., LL.D., and Rev. Augustus T. Norton, with the Elders, Hon. William E. Dodge, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, Edward Miller, and Samuel H. Mather.

The following paper was adopted and directed to be communicated by telegraph:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Harrisburgh, Pa., sends fraternal and Christian salutations to [15] the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church holding its sessions at Albany, N. Y., and suggests that the first morning hour of Tuesday be devoted by both Assemblies to prayer for the Divine guidance in their deliberation and action on the report of the Joint Committee on Reunion.

The Committee of Conference on Reunion presented the report of the Legal Advisers upon questions touching Property and vested rights as related to the matter of Reunion. The report was accepted and referred to the Special Committee on Reunion.*

The Records of the Synods of Illinois, Cincinnati, Onondaga, Wabash, Susquehanna, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey were, on the report of the respective examining Committees, approved as far as written.

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*See Appendix for text of report.

The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Tennessee and Alta California reported the absence of the books, and were discharged. It was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to remind the Synod of Alta California of its neglect of duty in the failure for several years to send its Records to the General Assembly for review.

The Standing Committee on the Ministerial Relief Fund presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Ministerial Relief Fund respectfully report,

That, on hearing and examining the report of the Executive Committee, they are more than ever impressed with the necessity and mercy, not to say the justice, of such a provision. There are few of our ministers who receive any more for their labors than a bare support under very rigid economy. Many on the frontiers and in the new settlements are called to endure great privation and much hardship. Some of the most devoted and laborious men, and among the most useful—men who, in other callings, would ordinarily have secured a competence—when they are worn out or disabled, are left with no means of support. Most of these, so far as has been discovered by the action of the Executive Committee, are among those who have spent their lives in the most difficult and needy fields, where their service necessarily involved both hardship and poverty. All the ministers who have been relieved by this Fund have received from their Presbyteries the most honorable testimonials of long-continued, most faithful, and successful labors. Some have been cut down in middle life, leaving widows who had shared in all their privations in the new settlements, and who were left with little children, destitute, and almost strangers, or among people who were scarcely able to aid them. The grateful expression of thanks to the Church and to God from some of these is most touching. It is blessed indeed to be able to give so much as a [16] cup of cold water to such disciples as these. Would our Lord be pleased that we should pass them by without either aid or sympathy?

The administration of the Fund appears to have been conducted with judicious and rigid scrutiny into the merits of each particular case; and according to rules which would seem to forbid, almost, the possibility of abuse.

Your Committee, therefore, beg leave to call the attention of all concerned to the resolution of the General Assembly of last year, requesting the ministers to preach on the subject of Ministerial Relief at an early day, and resolving, also, "That it be considered the duty of every church to take an annual collection for this cause."

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with until the closing session of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On the report of the respective Committees, the Records of the Synods of Indiana and Missouri, with exceptions, and those of the Synods of Genesee, Western Reserve, Minnesota, Albany, Michigan, Geneva, Wisconsin, and Utica, without exception, were approved as far as written.

The following communication was received from the other General Assembly:

"ALBANY, N. Y., May 25th, 1868.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Albany responds with warm Christian greetings to the salutations of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church holding its sessions at Harrisburgh, and have fixed the first morning hour of Tuesday for prayer to God for Divine guidance in their consideration and decision on the Reunion report."

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was accepted. Pending its consideration, the Assembly took a recess, and proceeded in a body to the Executive Mansion, where, after a brief reception and interview with the Governor of the Commonwealth,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [17]

Monday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported, as in order, a complaint of the Rev. Levi P. Crawford against the Synod of Peoria, and presented the documents in the case. The report was accepted and placed on the docket.

The Standing Committee on Education presented their report, which was accepted and placed on the docket.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was resumed.

The report, with a resolution appended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The only paper which has been put into the hands of the Committee is the report of the Permanent Committee—a well-prepared and most interesting document, showing a conscientious and exemplary performance of duty on the part of that faithful Committee. The careful consideration of this report has suggested two very different sentiments: first, that since there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth, there is cause for a transport of joy and praise in the Church at the last year's progress in the missionary work, as related in this report; and secondly, that there is cause also for extreme mortification at the exceedingly small measure of what has been given and done by our churches during the year in promoting this sacred work, as also here related. Of the 1560 churches of our denomination, more than half have contributed nothing, so far as appears; and the sum of the pecuniary contributions of the remainder is made up by the average of a fraction of a dollar from each church member.

We will name two other indications of a want of missionary interest. First, the place which Foreign Missions have held in the prayers of the churches, as appears in the small concern too commonly taken in the monthly meetings for prayer for the conversion of the world; secondly, the want of pains-taking to become acquainted and to extend acquaintance with the spiritual necessities and miseries of mankind, and with the toils, trials, sufferings, sacrifices, support, successes, and jubilant triumphs of our foreign missionaries.

Your Committee cannot but think that there is cause, too, for lamentation and wonder at the actual measure of interest in Foreign Missions in the general Church, as shown in the vast disproportion in distributing the means of evangelization among mankind. The unsearchable riches of redeeming mercy are, so to speak, a deposit in the hands of the Church for the benefit of the entire human race. Paul, regarding himself as one of the trustees of this infinite treasure, confesses himself, as in this be[18]half, "a debtor" to all men—Greeks and barbarians, wise and unwise; thus admitting that he might be charged with unfaithfulness in his sacred stewardship, if he should fail to impart to the whole family of man, as much as in him lay, the infinite grace of God in his Son, our blessed Lord. And Paul, though there was, doubtless, a specialty of obligation in his case, was, nevertheless, an example of what is the common concern of the Church, collectively and individually. Nothing in Christianity is more certain than that every one of its professors is, in the same sense, if not in the same measure, that Paul was, "a debtor" to all mankind. The trusteeship, the stewardship of the great Apostle belongs, by character, to every Christian. To be a Christian is to be invested with it. The grace of Christ is bestowed on churches and individuals, in order to be distributed by them to others who will receive it. A charge to distribute it is contained in the grace of conversion. Christ has given no law to his followers more imperative than the great missionary commandment. There is not one of them, to whom this commandment does not attach itself with the infinite authority of our Divine Master. But apart from authority, every Christian, so far as he is one, is, in person and substance, in spirit and in life, devoted to Christ's cause, which is one and identical with the cause of missionary work. Interest in this cause is a spontaneous, irrepressible impulse of Christian life—a movement of the Divine nature in the soul of man, for the advancement of the Gospel as widely and as far as possible. This holy impulse is boundless, egressive; it can endure no limitation. To make it introactive, to confine it to self or to place, is to stifle it. Regressions, paroxysms, spasms, intestine strifes, sectarian animosities, are the natural effects of restricting it within any narrow pale. Expansion, even to the utmost ends of the earth, is the law of personal Christianity, the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus. What now is the just estimation of actual church life as developing itself in missionary operations? Let this question be answered in the light of a comparison between the measures of the Church's activity in the two departments of Christian work, the Domestic and the Foreign. Let the two be compared in one particular, the apportionment of the ministry to each. There is no preference of countries, or nationalities, or classes in the economy of evangelization. Distance may make delay unavoidable; there may be, there have been, obstructions to missions invincible except by miracle; but such accidental specialties apart, all parts of the world have an equal claim to evangelistic ministrations. But what is the fact as to the actual distribution of the ministry? Three-fourths of mankind are without the Gospel. These three-fourths, special circumstances apart, are entitled to three-fourths of the aggregate of the ministry. The one-fourth, nevertheless, has the whole number, minus the portion of about one to forty, or thirty at the most. What disregard of our Lord's great commandment! what repression of Christian life does this enormous inequality imply! [19] and what defalcation in the stewardship of the saving grace of God!

If there has ever been an alleviation of the guilt of this vast abuse of trust, there is none now. Obstructions to the spread of Christianity are past and gone. All the world is now open. Access to the remotest parts is free, and speed thither may be swift as the wind; swift even as lightning, knowledge may fly all abroad, from end to end of the world. The great Chinese empire, with its four hundred millions, has at last, to adopt the language of the Permanent Committee, been brought, not only to open its doors wide to the Western nations, but to come to us to seek our influence, instruction, and aid. What are these wonders of Almighty Providence but a call, loud as the archangel's voice, to our enlargement to the uttermost of the numbers of missionary men and women, and all the other necessary means of evangelism? Assuredly, the time has come for a new beginning in the work of Foreign Missions. The date of the modern movement in this work was near the commencement of the current century. Inadequate as it has been, in all respects, the results of this movement are, in themselves, magnificent and wonderful; but compared to what remains to be achieved, they are almost too small to be taken account of. And the Church shall not forget that, if the late successes are encouraging, there are great offsets to them on the contrary part, most directly and intensely antagonistic to future progress. The world's career, during the past of this century, has been immeasurably in advance of that of the Church. A materialism, hitherto without parallel, characterizes the age. And what new forms of open and avowed opposition to evangelical truth are, at this moment, exceedingly predominant and no less flagrant and triumphant! If there be not a development of life and action in the Church, adequately large and intense, to meet and conquer these mighty forces of evil, what hope is there for the progress of the cause of Christianity at home or abroad? True, when the enemy cometh in like a flood, we may expect that the Spirit of God will lift up a standard against him; but what standard does the Holy Spirit ever lift up besides a regenerated, reinvigorated, and a sufficiently energetic and heroical Church? What ground is there, in reason or in Scripture, for the expectation of progress for Christianity, whether at home or among the heathen, but an inauguration of a new era of Christian life? Is not a Pentecostal outpouring, like that at the beginning, needed at this moment? Does not every minister and every Christian behoove to receive such a baptism, especially of the Holy Ghost and of fire?

While urging the necessity of a vastly enhanced earnestness in the interest of Foreign Missions, your Committee are conscious of no restraint to their earnestness from an apprehension of detracting from earnestness or success in domestic evangelism; on the contrary, they would be constrained to press this necessity to the uttermost, were their ultimate motive the highest interest of [20] the Church at home. The two interests are one, interdependent and indivisible. In the view of your Committee, there is not, in the whole world, a more important work than that of thoroughly Christianizing the great American Republic. But it needs no reasoning to prove that the sending forth of foreign missionaries, with ample support for them, in whatever numbers and at whatever expense. instead of diminishing, would, by the very movement and by a favorable reaction on the domestic churches, be directly and indirectly only gain, and the richest gain to the latter. In confirmation of this, let the appeal be made to the history of Christianity at the apostolic epoch and thenceforward, without exception, through the entire course of the Christian Church.

The Permanent Committee's correspondence with our missionaries is entitled to the large space which it occupies in their excellent report. While their correspondence expresses, on the part of the Committee, as representing our churches, cordial and warm sympathy with our dear missionary brethren in their trials and sacrifices and arduous labors, it elicits from them expressions of patience, courage, cheerfulness, and joyous faith and hope, which exceedingly endear them to us as servants of our blessed Lord and Saviour, who for the sake of advancing his cause and honor, by extending his kingdom in the far distants parts of the earth, have counted all things comparatively but loss, and are more than willing, if need be, to suffer the loss of all things.

The Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., the Rev. Theodore S. Brown, the Rev. Robert Aikman, Mr. William Churchill, and Mr. William E. Dodge, Jr., are recommended for election on the Permanent Committee of Foreign Missions to the full term of three years.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Resolved, That the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be instructed to take measures, at their earliest convenience, to ascertain in how many of our churches Monthly Concerts are held; and that, with a view to gathering up this and other facts bearing on the subject, they publish and send to the pastors, and, in case of vacant churches, to the Clerks of sessions, circulars, asking the following and such other questions as may seem advisable:

1. Have you a Monthly Concert in your church?
2. How is it conducted?
3. How long has it been in operation?
4. On what evenings is it held?
5. In what estimation is it held in the church and congregation?
6. What is the average attendance?
7. What are the average contributions?
8. Are you supplied with the Missionary Maps? [21]
9. Are there any special features of your Monthly Concerts which you would commend to others?
10. If you have no Monthly Concerts, will you state why it is?
11. If the attempt has ever been made to have a Monthly Concert in your church and has failed, on what ground was the failure?
12. Will you do your best to organize a Monthly Concert?

And that the Committee embody the results of the facts thus ascertained in their report to the next General Assembly, with such suggestions and recommendations as in their judgment may seem to be called for.

Resolved, That a minute, expressive of the sense of this Assembly, with reference to the seven hundred churches delinquent in the cause of Foreign Missions, be prepared and reported by a Committee consisting of Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., Rev. Newton J. Conklin, and Elder Daniel B. Greene.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture, asking that the degree of Deacons be defined, and the proper method of its recognition be indicated; they recommended that the Overture be answered by reference to the Form of Government, Chapter VI., and the Digest, pp. 47, 48, and 468.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported a paper from the Presbytery of Cayuga, referring to "the revision of subjects for church collections, and a new issue of blanks corresponding to the revision," with a recommendation that the subject be referred, with power, to the Stated Clerk, with the Secretaries of Home Missions, Education, and Church Erection.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Joint

Committee on Reunion, presented their report, which was accepted. Pending its consideration,

The Rev. Richard H. Richardson, D. D., and the Hon. Henry W. Green, LL.D., Delegates of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Albany, N. Y., addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator. [22]

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee was resumed, and continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee appointed with reference to churches delinquent in the cause of Foreign Missions, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute relating to the churches which appear as having contributed nothing the past year to the cause of Foreign Missions present the following:—

The Assembly regard the reported delinquency of these churches—the majority of our whole number—as cause for profound regret and sorrow. It is aware that these churches, for the most part, are the smaller and feebler ones; but surely they might have given something; and their offering, irrespective of amount, would have been acceptable to Him whose estimation of liberality is not according to its amount, but according to the measure of sacrifice it costs. Not the sum given, so much as what is left to the giver, is his principle of estimation. This was the principle according to which the poor widow's two mites, which make a farthing, was reckoned as larger liberality than all the gifts of the rich, who remained rich after giving. There is not a member of these churches, in whom the spirit of self-sacrifice might not have been effectual to the contribution of something; and that something, however small, would have been accounted by our Saviour a valuable gift to the treasury of the American Board. The giver, at least, would have been no loser by it. As there is no Christian duty of higher obligation, so there is no Christian grace of higher excellence than that charity which, in the name and interest of our blessed Lord, sacrifices her own for the advantage of others. If, therefore, the Assembly had respect only to the highest good of the delinquent churches, they would have a sufficient motive for regretting the withholding of their gifts. But he, who knows the "works" of his churches, would not have withheld his blessing from their self-denying exercise of charity, whereby it would have become available to an extent not to be defined, and in advancing the great foreign missionary work. Wherefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly, in view of the fact that the majority of our churches appear to have given nothing to the cause of Foreign Missions during the year, implores the ministers, [23] elders, and members of these delinquent churches to consider afresh what they owe to their divine Master, who has redeemed them by his blood, and to the perishing millions of the heathen world, and to inquire whether they should hope to be approved and blessed of him while they so fail to obey his great missionary commandment.

Your Committee beg leave to add to their report, though not strictly embraced in the subject-matter referred to them, some practical suggestions in regard to the general subject of beneficence, especially in our weaker churches. No doubt the want of attention to systematic beneficence is aggravated by the short stay of pastors and stated supplies. They lack, to some extent, the incentive and the opportunity for training their people to correct habits in this matter. This cause of the admitted evil we cannot control. We must rather seek to reach the best attainable results in spite of it. The great removable causes we think to be ignorance and indifference. We seek a radical change. This is a work of time and much prayerful labor. Yet to have secured the desired result is worth all it will cost. When and how, then, shall we seek to effect it?

Begin with the children of the Sabbath-school. Strive to impress them with a sense of God's love, and of the value of the Gospel to them, and, with their privileges, contrast the privations of children in the heathen world, and even in the less favored parts of our own country. Children can understand the wants and woes of children, and can easily be taught the habit of relieving them. Then the habit of the child becomes the habit of the man. These considerations may often be brought before the minds of our children, though not always in connection with direct appeals for money. Never try to pump sympathy from an empty, careless heart. Rather by suitable means awaken, develop, and fill up. till the overflowing heart yields a living and life-giving stream.

Put the Monthly Concert of prayer in such a place and time as to find the people. and then make it a live missionary meeting. Enlist as many as possible in its exercises, and, so far as possible, enlist some one from every family as a contributor to the general interest. Appoint committees to glean facts from every missionary field. and to report its successes and its wants. And with frequent prayer mingle hints and suggestions of practical duty with the facts of the missionary world. Here. as in the Sabbath-school, let it be a primary aim to secure an intelligent appreciation of the wants of the world, and, this attained, to enforce personal obligation and secure personal interest, and action. Scolding has no place in the plan. What the love of Christ will not constrain men to do, who clearly see what is needed, and have been taught prayerfully to ask, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" we see no effective way of accomplishing. The pastor. minister, Sabbath-school superintendent. or whoever, for the time being, is fairly responsible for leading in this work, we urge and [24] exhort at once to set earnestly about it. If elders or members are cold and negligent. let them not be approached primarily with a demand for money, but rather, in some way, seek to engage them in reading up in missionary facts, and then in combining and stating those facts to others less able to do the work for themselves. and thus lead on, gradually enlisting all classes, until giving will be a natural and necessary relief to a grateful and glowing heart. The Monthly Concert should never have a collection, in the technical sense, but always a grateful free-will offering, as its final act of worship.

In conclusion, we assume to lay neither command nor burden on any, but, through the pastors and elders of the churches, send to all the brethren our Christian greeting, and ask them to review this subject with earnest prayer before God, only reminding them that "there is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty," and that "the Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial of the Synod of Minnesota, asking the Assembly to memorialize Congress, to apply the criminal laws of the States to the Indian tribes of the Territories, and, on the recommendation of the Committee, the Rev. Frederick A. Noble, Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., Rev. John Rankin, and the Elders H. Knox Taylor and Edward Miller, were appointed a Special *Committee* to prepare such memorial.

A communication from the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., Chairman of a Committee appointed by the Presbyterian National Union Convention, held at Philadelphia in November, 1867, inclosing the basis of union adopted by that body, and asking for it the consideration of this General Assembly, was read, accepted, and placed on the docket.

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Reunion was resumed, and was continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 27th, 8½ A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [25]

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Reunion was resumed, and, after a protracted discussion, was recommitted.

The Rev. J. Romeyn Berry, D. D., the Delegate of the Reformed Church in America, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 27th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Special Committee on Reunion again presented their report, which was considered until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until Friday at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Reunion was resumed, and, after discussion, its further consideration was suspended for the present.

It was then

Resolved, That, before proceeding to take the vote upon the report of the Special Committee on Reunion, the Roll be called, that any member may express his dissent from any article of the proposed terms of Reunion, and that such dissent be entered on the record.

In accordance with this action, the Roll was called, and the following members expressed their dissent from the 2d and 10th articles of the Basis proposed by the Joint Committee on Reunion, namely: the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Rev. Timothy Hill, and Elder Jason Yurann; Elder Eli R. Miller expressed his dissent from the 2d article; and the following members expressed their dissent from the 10th article, namely: Ministers, William Waith, T. Ralston Smith, D. D., William T. Eva, Joseph Vance, Frederick A. Noble, William A. McCorkle, Ira M. Weed, Charles S. Adams, C. Solon Armstrong, Henry B. Eldred, Warren Taylor, David E. Beach, Edward D. Morris, D. D., A. Alexander Jimeson, Evan L. Davies, Charles H. Marshall, Henry S. Little, John [26] B. Fowler, George Duffield, Jr., George M. Jenks, Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Arthur Swazey, John H. Walker, George D. Young, John M. Brown, and Thomas Brown; and the Elders, Hon. Frederick H. Hastings, Merrill N. Hutchinson, Samuel T. Bodine, Daniel B. Greene, Matthew Newkirk, Daniel S. Beaver, and John De Clue.

The report of the Special Committee was then taken up, amended, and unanimously adopted. The Rev. Robert W. Patterson, the Rev. Arthur Swazey, the Rev. J. Ambrose Wight and Elder Richard Edwards were excused from voting.

The report of the Reunion Committee of fifteen is as follows:—

Report of the Committee on Reunion.

The Committee, appointed by the General Assembly of 1866, to confer with a similar Committee of the other Assembly, in regard to the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church; and continued by the Assembly of 1867, with directions and instructions to co-operate with the other Committee in furtherance of the object, and "report to the General Assemblies of 1868 any modification of the terms of Union which might seem desirable to the Joint Committee in view of any new light that may have been received during the year,"—would now respectfully report:—

That the two Committees again assembled in joint meeting, in the city of Philadelphia, on Wednesday A. M., the 11th of March, 1868, and continued in conference reviewing the terms of Union, with the further light which they had received, till Saturday afternoon, the 14th, when, having finished the important business with which they were intrusted, they finally adjourned.

Every member of these large Committees was present with the exception of Rev. Dr. Hitchcock, of Ohio, absent in Europe, Rev. Dr. Howard, of Pennsylvania, detained by severe illness, and Judge Strong, of Missouri, prevented by unavoidable professional engagements. Rev. Dr. Patterson, of Illinois, arrived from a foreign voyage, after a long absence, in season to meet the Committee; but, feeling himself obliged to leave for home on Thursday afternoon, did not participate in the final action. This large and patient attendance was a new indication of the deep interest, which is felt throughout the country in the subject under consideration, and also of the profound sense of responsibility on the part of the several members of the Joint Committee, charged to take action in a matter, which must affect extensively and permanently the interests of our country and the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To our regret, the report expected from the legal advisers appointed to investigate questions of property and vested rights was not received, owing to the death of Mr. Daniel Lord, and the fact that Judges Strong and Sharswood had declined to act in the premises, because of their present official position on the [27] Bench. After filling a vacancy by the appointment of Hon. William M. Porter, of Philadelphia, we requested the Legal Committee to meet as soon as practicable and prepare their report, which will be submitted by them directly to the Assemblies.

To affirm that all the meetings of the Joint Committee were distinguished, as heretofore, by Christian courtesy and kindness would be but a faint expression of the truth. This sentiment of fraternal confidence and regard assumed such forms of expression, that all who participated in the conference will be sure to remember it, as one of the greatest and happiest privileges of their lives. This kindness of feeling, however, did not repress or modify the utmost frankness in the statement of difficulties, real and alleged, on either side. It ought to be stated distinctly, in justice to all the many interests and sections represented by these Committees, that there was not the least reserve in the expression of the objections, which had been urged in any quarter, against the proposed reunion. So frank and explicit was this utterance, that at times it appeared as if honest differences of opinion would render success uncertain. But the effect of continued and candid conference was the increase of confidence, through the correction of misapprehensions and the removal of obstacles, so that the very clouds, which threatened to obscure the light, arranged themselves at last so as to reflect and increase what they could not hide. The prayers of many churches and conventions, in different parts of the country, known to the Committee to be ascending to God in their behalf, were abundantly answered in the entire harmony and unanimity to which they eventually attained. By this unanimity it is not meant, that in every article and act of the Committee the preferences of each member were fully met; but that all were finally agreed, that the basis of Union now to be reported was, in the circumstances, the best that could be framed in the way of adjusting divers conflicting views and interests; and as such it was adopted, in the final vote, with entire unanimity, pledges of cordial support, and sincere thanks to Almighty God.

Your Committee are fully persuaded that, if the ministers, elders, and members, of both branches of the Church had been present at our recent conferences, seen what we saw, and heard what we heard, they would heartily join in the result which was reached by their representatives. With this belief the Committee have judged it expedient and proper, to accompany their report with such explanatory words, as may serve to convey to others the facts and motives which proved of such weight to themselves.

Your Committee were not at liberty to forget or overlook the premises upon which they received their appointment. The resolution of the General Assembly (O. S.) in which this movement originated, expressed the "earnest desire" of that body "for reunion at the earliest time consistent with agreement [28] in doctrine, order, and polity, on the basis of our common standards and the prevalence of mutual confidence and love." The General Assembly, (N. S.,) in responding to this action by a similar vote, expressed "its earnest wish for reunion" on a similar basis.

This earnest desire for union, as confessed by both bodies, is a fact which antedates the appointment of your Committee. They were not commissioned to inquire whether it existed, or to take measures to excite and promote it. The existence of this acknowledged sentiment was the basis upon which the two Committees were appointed. These premises assumed, the position occupied by the Joint Committee, and the point of view from which they should survey their work, were already decided by both Assemblies.

The desirableness of Reunion, if it can be consummated on satisfactory terms, is not to be treated and put aside as a blind and imbecile impulse; it is the act and expression of Christian wisdom. The movement, thus inaugurated and advanced, was not made necessary by the condition or prospects of either of the bodies now in conference. Each is thoroughly organized, equipped, and prosperous. Neither needs the accession of the other for its own sake merely. The motives which impel to union are higher and greater than any which pertain to denominational advantage. They relate to the welfare of the whole country, and the kingdom of our Lord in all the earth. On this high ground, chosen for them in the providence of God, by the action of both Assemblies, the two Committees took their stand, inclined in advance, when any concessions were to be made, that the lesser preference should defer to the greater and the stronger.

The changes which have occurred in our own country and throughout the world, during the last thirty years—the period of our separation—arrest and compel attention. Within this time the original number of our States has been very nearly doubled. It was in the year 1837 that what is now the great and prosperous State of Michigan was admitted into the Union. Florida, Texas, Wisconsin, Iowa, California, Minnesota, Oregon, Kansas, Nevada, Nebraska, have followed in rapid succession; with numerous Territories already organized, soon to take their places in the National Union. And all this vast domain is to be supplied with the means of education and the institutions of religion, as the only source and protection of our national life. The population crowding into this immense area is heterogeneous. Six millions of emigrants, representing various religions and nationalities, have arrived on our shores within the last thirty years; and four millions of slaves, recently enfranchised, demand Christian education. It is no secret that anti-Christian forces—Romanism, Ecclesiasticism, Rationalism, Infidelity, Materialism, and Paganism itself—assuming new vitality, are struggling for the ascendency. Christian forces should be combined and deployed according to the new movements of their adversaries. It is no [29] time for small and weak detachments, which may easily be defeated in detail. A lesson has been given us in recent years, as to the ease with which diversities of sentiment may be harmonized and combined in one purpose to maintain the national life. The time has come when minor motives should be merged in the magnanimous purpose, inspired both by patriotism and religion, to Christianize the whole country.

The necessity of a closer union among Christians of a common faith and order has come to be felt, in a new sense, by the members of our several churches. It cannot be denied, that there exists a widespread and earnest longing for more of visible unity among all classes of Christian people. This is especially noticeable among the most intelligent, active and generous in our connection. Responding to the teachings and challenges of the pulpit, the laity in our large cities and towns have entered upon a new stage of Christian activity, demonstrating the possibility of practical union in the stewardship of Christ. In many quarters there is an evident increase of evangelic life and energy. With these facts well authenticated before them, your Committee feel that, should the elements now stirred and converging toward union be diverted and repelled from their object, the effect would be most disastrous on the prospects of true religion. If the hearts of Christian people, combined already throughout the land in Christian work, should be disappointed as to that organic union which they crave, and this, through differences asserted by the clergy, which the laity either do not understand or with which they have no sympathy, the certain effect will be to lessen the sentiment of respect and confidence on their part toward their appointed leaders, and weaken the force of paramount motives.

Nor is the proposed union desirable on our own account only. It is inevitable that its effects should be felt throughout the whole of Christendom. Many of the ecclesiastical organizations of Protestant Europe had their origin in remote controversies connected with the Reformation. That was a time for the assertion of truth, rather than for the expression of love. It was not so much a season for extending Christianity as for purifying and preparing it for future aggression. If we must judge now, that segregation was then carried to an extreme beyond what was required by necessity and Christian charity, surely we possess peculiar advantages in this country and age, for availing ourselves of a wiser and happier policy. Nothing is so long-lived and inveterate as ancestral memories and prejudices. Before the world we are now engaged, as a nation, in solving the problem whether it is possible for all the incongruous and antagonistic nationalities thrown upon our shores, exerting their mutual attraction and repulsion, to become fused in one new American sentiment. If the several branches of the Presbyterian Church in this country, representing to a great degree ancestral differences, should become cordially united, it must have not only a direct effect upon the question of our national unity, but, reacting by [30] the force of a successful example on the Old World, must render aid in that direction, to all who are striving to reconsider and readjust those combinations, which had their origin either in the faults or the necessities of a remote past. The results of our present movement are eagerly observed by many, and its success or failure must inevitably affect other efforts, at home and abroad, looking to the consolidation of other branches of the Christian Church; nor can we doubt that, if any hindrance should frustrate the consummation of that union now contemplated by ourselves, a pang of grief and disappointment would be felt not only in our own country, but throughout Protestant Christendom.

The third of a century, the life of a whole generation, has indeed wrought wondrous changes, of the greatest promise for the future. Another order of things exists. Old causes of irritation are removed. A new generation in the ministry and the membership of the Church has arisen, with little sympathy for those controversies that resulted in division. A new evangelic spirit is abroad, like the breath of spring, inviting to a new style of action.

It would have betrayed a criminal temper, on the part of your Committee, had they been indifferent to those events and sentiments to which they owe their own appointment, and under the influence of which they addressed themselves honestly, patiently, and prayerfully to the duty assigned to them. The result of their deliberation is embodied in the following document, which they now submit for the consideration of the Assemblies:

PROPOSED TERMS OF REUNION BETWEEN THE TWO BRANCHES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Joint Committee of the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, appointed for the purpose of conferring on the desirableness and practicability of uniting these two bodies, deeply impressed with the responsibility of the work assigned us, and having earnestly sought Divine guidance, and patiently devoted ourselves to the investigation of the question involved, agree in presenting the following for the consideration, and, if they see fit, for the adoption of the two General Assemblies.

Believing that the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom would be promoted by healing our divisions; that practical union would greatly augment the efficiency of the whole Church for the accomplishment of its divinely-appointed work; that the main causes producing division have either wholly passed away, or become so far inoperative, as that Reunion is now "consistent with agreement in doctrine, order, and polity, on the basis of our common standards, and the prevalence of mutual confidence and love;" and that two bodies, bearing the same name, adopting the same Constitution, and claiming the same corporate rights, cannot be justified by any but the most imperative reasons in maintaining separate and, in some respects, rival organizations; and regarding it as both just and proper, that a Reunion should be ef[31]fected by the two Churches, as independent bodies, and on equal terms; we propose the following Terms and Recommendations, as suited to meet the demands of the case:

1. The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis

of our common standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice: the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted, "as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures;" it being understood, that this Confession is received in its proper, historical—that is, the Calvinistic or Reformed—sense; it is also understood, that various methods of viewing, stating, explaining, and illustrating the doctrines of the Confession, which do not impair the integrity of the Reformed or Calvinistic system, are to be freely allowed in the United Church, as they have hitherto been allowed in the separate Churches: and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity.

2. All the ministers and churches, embraced in the two bodies, shall be admitted to the same standing in the united body, which they may hold in their respective connections up to the consummation of the union; imperfectly organized churches shall be counseled and expected to become thoroughly Presbyterian, as early, within the period of five years, as is permitted by the highest interests to be consulted; and no other such churches shall be hereafter received.

3. The boundaries of the several Presbyteries and Synods shall be adjusted by the General Assembly of the United Church.

4. The official records of the two branches of the Church, for the period of separation, shall be preserved and held as making up the one history of the Church; and no rule or precedent, which does not stand approved by both the bodies, shall be of any authority, until re-established in the united body, except in so far as such rule or precedent may affect the rights of property founded thereon.

5. The corporate rights, now held by the two General Assemblies, and by their Boards and Committees, shall, as far as practicable, be consolidated, and applied for their several objects, as defined by law.

6. There shall be one set of Committees or Boards for Home and Foreign Missions, and the other religious enterprises of the Church, which the churches shall be encouraged to sustain, though free to cast their contributions into other channels, if they desire to do so.

7. As soon as practicable after the union shall be effected, the General Assembly shall reconstruct and consolidate the several Permanent Committees and Boards, which now belong to the two Assemblies, in such a manner as to represent, as far as possible, [32] with impartiality, the views and wishes of the two bodies constituting the United Church.

8. The publications of the Board of Publication, and of the Publication Committee, shall continue to be issued as at present, leaving it to the Board of Publication of the United Church to revise these issues, and perfect a catalogue for the joint Church, so as to exclude invidious references to past controversies.

9. In order to a uniform system of ecclesiastical supervision, those Theological Seminaries that are now under Assembly control may, if their Boards of Direction so elect, be transferred to the watch and care of one or more of the adjacent Synods; and the other Seminaries are advised to introduce, as far as may be, into their Constitutions, the principle of Synodical or Assembly supervision; in which case, they shall be entitled to an official recognition and approbation on the part of the General Assembly.

10. It is agreed, that the Presbyteries possess the right to examine minis-

ters applying for admission from other Presbyteries; but each Presbytery shall be left free to decide for itself when it shall exercise the right.

11. It shall be regarded as the duty of all our judicatories, ministers, and people in the United Church, to study the things which make for peace, and to guard against all needless and offensive references to the causes that have divided us; and, in order to avoid the revival of past issues, by the continuance of any usage in either branch of the Church that has grown out of our former conflicts, it is earnestly recommended to the lower judicatories of the Church, that they conform their practice in relation to all such usages, as far as is consistent with their convictions of duty, to the general custom of the Church prior to the controversies that resulted in the separation.

12. The Terms of the Reunion, if they are approved by the General Assemblies of 1868, shall be overtured to the several Presbyteries under their care, and shall be of binding force, if they are ratified by three-fourths of the Presbyteries connected with each branch of the Church, within one year after they shall have been submitted to them for approval.

13. If the two General Assemblies of 1869 shall find, that the Plan of Reunion has been ratified by the requisite number of Presbyteries in each body, they shall, after the conclusion of all their business, be dissolved by their respective Moderators, in the manner and form following, viz.:—Each Moderator shall address the Assembly over which he presides, saying, "By virtue of the authority delegated to me by the Church, and in conformity with the Plan of Union adopted by the two Presbyterian Churches, let this Assembly be dissolved; and I do hereby dissolve it, and require a General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, by all the Presbyteries in connection with this body, and all those in connection with the General Assembly meeting this year in ————, to meet in ————, on the ———— day of May, A. D. 1870; and [33] I do hereby declare and proclaim, that the General Assembly thus constituted will be the rightful General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, now, by the grace of God, happily united."

Signed by order of the Joint Committee.

CHARLES C. BEATTY, *Chairman.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, March 14, *A. D.* 1868.

It will be observed that the Committee have agreed upon a few modifications of the Basis of Union, reported in May, 1867; this, not so much from any change of opinion on their own part, as with a view, if possible, of preventing or correcting misapprehension, and to meet, more fully, the views and wishes of the bodies which they represent.

In reference to the First Article, containing the doctrinal basis, the language employed is so explicit, that the Committee believe it will prove satisfactory to all who desire union on the terms of Christian confidence and honor. First of all, following the order of the "Constitutional Questions" proposed by our Form of Government to all who are ordained to the ministry and eldership of the Presbyterian Church, we assert the great Protestant principle—the sole supremacy and undivided authority of the Word of God, in all matters of faith and practice: assigning to this the foremost place above Church, Creed, Confession, School, and System.

Magnifying the Inspired Scriptures, we next adopt, indorse, and honor, our common Confession, as "containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures." So far as they were concerned themselves, the Committees would have been content to rest in this prescribed form of words, as received and used by Christian brethren. Unhappily, misapprehension, prejudices, and distrust are engendered by divisions, to obviate which the Committee have endeavored to modify the language of their former report, thought by some to be ambiguous, so as to make it precise, without surmising or exaggerating differences of opinion.

In their judgment, the line of distinction between the two Assemblies, as now drawn, does not consist, as some have supposed, merely in theological diversities. The same Confession is adopted by all. It is adopted in the same terms as containing the same system. To make this agreement the more determinate, the Committee have given this system its historic name. At the same time that we mutually interchange these guarantees for orthodoxy, we mutually interchange guarantees for Christian liberty. Differences always have existed and been allowed in the Presbyterian Churches in Europe and America, as to modes of explaining and theorizing within the metes and bounds of the one accepted system. What exists in fact, we have undertaken to express in words. To put into exact formulas what opinions [34] should be allowed and what interdicted, would be to write a new Confession of Faith. This neither branch of the Church desires. Your Committee have assumed no such work of supererogation. Neither have they made compromises or concessions. They append no codicil to the old symbols. They have asserted, as being essential to all true unity, the necessity of adopting the same Confession and the same system, with the recognition of liberty on either hand, for such differences as do not impair the integrity of the system itself; which is all the liberty that any branch of the great Calvinistic family of churches has ever claimed or desired. Your Committee cannot see how it was possible for them to employ language more precise and guarded, unless they were prepared to substitute "private interpretations" for the recognized standards of the Church. To go further in either direction than they have done would certainly lead to useless and endless "strifes of words." Language somewhere must find a limit. It would be impossible so to frame expressions on this subject, that those who are opposed to Reunion may not find occasion to cavil and object. But the Committee hope and trust that the Article now reported will commend itself to all fair-minded men, as containing what is precise, yet not exclusive; definite, yet not rigid; specific, yet not inflexible; liberal, without laxity; catholic, without latitudinarianism. If exact uniformity in all shades of opinion in technical adjustments, in philosophic theories, be regarded as essential to union, we should earnestly recommend the indefinite adjournment of the present movement. Nor would consistency allow us to rest here; our present organizations should be dissolved and exchanged for disintegration and individualism.

Nothing need be said in vindication of the Second Article, to those who are fully informed concerning the churches referred to therein. Your Committee had to deal, not with abstractions, but with facts and realities. The churches here described originated in a policy which was itself inaugurated by a remote necessity; their number is limited, and cannot be increased; the terms of their relationship are prescribed and limited also; their Presbyterian relationship is at present cordial, happy, and eminently useful; and some of them are deemed, by the Presbyteries with which they are connected, as among their most efficient and excellent churches. As nothing is intended by our action to disturb the present relations of these churches, so nothing is designed to be done, at any time, which can be regarded as inconsistent with good faith and honor; but such statements were made by those members of the Joint Committee more immediately representing the sections of country in which these churches exist, as led the Committee to believe, that the friendly counsel contained in this Article would prove not unacceptable to these churches themselves, and that the specification of a definite time might be an aid to them in perfecting that organization which is now suggested by Christian expediency. [35]

The several Articles, which contemplate the combination and readjustment of the respective Boards and Committees of the two Assemblies, look only to economy and increased efficiency.

The recommendation contained in the Eighth Article calls for the briefest explanation, as it is believed that it will prove more satisfactory than the former Article, to which various objections were made. No disposition was manifest in the Committee to press invidious distinctions and preferences. Neither Publishing Committee is to supersede or indorse the other. Both, earnestly engaged at present in publishing what is received by the churches at large as valuable literature in theology and practical religion, are advised to continue as now organized, till such a new Board or Committee shall be appointed in the United Church, as, it may be supposed, would be prompted by every instinct of Christian propriety to omit painful and invidious references to past strifes, leaving undisturbed what is now, and ever must be, highly prized by all our ministers and churches.

As to the action of the Committee concerning Theological Seminaries, as embodied in Article Ninth of their report, all difficulty springs from the obvious fact, that there is no authority which is competent to forbid the endowment of Seminaries at any time by any individuals in our connection. Those Theological Seminaries, which are now independent of ecclesiastical control, were founded before the disruption, and endowed by men representing alike what are now known as Old and New School Churches. What was done then may be repeated again. A recommendation, looking to some uniformity of ecclesiastical supervision, is all which the Committee felt to be within their province or that of the Assembly; except that those Seminaries, now belonging to either branch of the Church, should have every guarantee and protection for their chartered rights which they might desire.

A new Article, here designated as the Tenth, has been introduced, in which some concession has been made on both sides, designed to reconcile conflicting claims and usages. Many churches and Presbyteries, in both Assemblies, claim the right, as now expressed in formal vote, of pronouncing upon the expediency of admitting, to their own membership, those who bear testimonials from correlative bodies. One Assembly now makes this obligatory upon all the Presbyteries. The Committee recommend the recognition of the right, and the abolition of the imperative rule. As all difficulties springing from this cause had their origin in times of suspicion and distrust which, it is hoped, are passing away, it is believed that the whole matter may safely be left to adjust itself in a new era of confidence and harmony. In this connection, however, the Committee would particularly refer to the next article, (No. 11,) which emphasizes the duty of all our judicatories to study the things which make for peace, and earnestly recommends to the Presbyteries to conform to earlier and more ancient usages. The examination of min[36]isters passing from one Presbytery to another is altogether unknown to the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland and Ireland; nor was it originally practised in our own. The extent of territory covered by the Presbyterian Church in the United States may have been one reason for another method, in later years, in our own country; but, inasmuch as the right and usage asserted and defended by some, and denied and discarded by others, were related to controversies which are past, the Committee are confident that practical difficulties, from this quarter, will be obviated by the adoption of their entire action in the premises. Amid the diversified practices which now prevail as to this subject in both branches of the Church, this recommendation of the Committee was designed to allay, and not to promote, distrust and suspicion.

That some changes must be made in the present method and ratio of representation is apparent from the size of the two Assemblies. Differences of opinion also have long existed in both branches, as to the powers and prerogatives of the General Assembly, as now exercised. Many are jealous and apprehensive lest these may transcend the limits of expediency and Constitutional Law. Whether the proposed Reunion would create the necessity of enlarging the authority of the local Synods and modifying somewhat the power and province of the General Assembly, is a subject upon which, as not having been referred to them, the Committees have not felt at liberty to make suggestions or to take action, beyond that of commending it to the attention of the two Assemblies, which they do in the following terms, to wit:—

"The Joint Committee recommend that each of the two General Assemblies of 1868 appoint a Committee of five, to constitute a Joint Committee of ten, whose duty shall be to prepare and propose to the first General Assembly of the United Church a proper adjustment of the boundaries of Presbyteries and Synods.

"This Committee shall also recommend to the General Assembly any amendments of the Constitution, which they may think necessary to secure efficiency and harmony in the administration of a Church so greatly enlarged and so rapidly extending."

Thus have the Committee discharged the duty with which they were intrusted. Having acted to the best of their ability, according to all the wisdom they could command, their responsibility ceases. The grave necessity of decisive action is now devolved on the respective Assemblies and Presbyteries of the Church. That this responsibility transcends what ordinarily occurs in the life of men, no one will question.

The Union contemplated in this report is one based on "mutual confidence and love." The Committees are aware that they have personally enjoyed peculiar opportunities, in the way of intimate fraternal intercourse, for the cultivation and expression of these Christian sentiments. Whatever differences may exist among themselves on subordinate matters, they have come to rest in mutual confidence concerning that which is of paramount import[37]ance. If the same sentiment prevails throughout the whole Church, organic Union cannot be prevented; if it should prove to be wanting, no technical formulas, no cautious definitions, no well-guarded conditions, can produce union of any value or permanence. There is a so-called unity, which is like the freezing together into one solid mass of all incongruous and heterogeneous substances. Such icy compression is undesirable. There is another unity, which the Holy Ghost has compared to the living "body fitly joined together, and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part," making "increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Such is the Divine model of ecclesiastical Union, combining diversity and harmony, liberty and love, and the whole instinct with life, and predestined to growth and perfection. Love demands few conditions, and confidence builds on something better than verbal guarantees. Your Committee have never expected to reconcile all local interests, all private preferences, all personal memories and prejudices. Content are they, if the Articles of Agreement, herewith reported and recommended, approve themselves to the thoughtful and judicious in both branches of the Church, as suited to promote, not the advantage of any school or sect, but the healthful vigor of the entire Church, the prosperity of the whole country, the honor of our adorable Lord.

We make no computation of majorities and minorities, in the United Church, as related to past distinctions. We recognize no such idea as one body absorbing the other; our whole action is based on the principle of two bodies, now independent and equal, becoming assimilated and fused together in cordial "agreement as to doctrine, order, and polity, on the basis of our common standards, and the prevalence of mutual confidence and love." In such a sublime act, something must be trusted to the power of Christian sentiment; something left to be accomplished by faith in one another, as well as in our common Lord. Signs are visible in every quarter of increased confidence among Christian churches and ministers, long separated by ecclesiastical differences, now yearning for more of unity. As well might we deny the return of spring and the putting forth of buds and the tender grass, as question this obvious fact. Do not events indicate a Divine leadership which it is our wisdom to observe and obey? Results have already been reached, under Pentecostal effusions of the Spirit from on high, surpassing the most sanguine expectations, rebuking unbelief, dissolving prejudice, and betokening greater things to come. Some things must be referred to the past. If we face the sun, our shadows are behind us. "Let the dead bury their dead." It is our Lord himself who teaches us, that all which is personal and private should be held subordinate to the claims and affinities of his kingdom. What was tolerated once may not be justified now. The future cheers and animates us with brightest prospects. The voice of the Son of God rebukes the weakness and wickedness of schism, and enjoins the unity of [38] faith and love. Hope anticipates the time when, every dissension healed and forgotten by Christian charity, all branches of the Presbyterian Church, in all sections of our common country, holding the same standards, shall be drawn together by patriotic and evangelical sympathies in cordial and indissoluble union. Glorious things are promised to the Church, "in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of his people and healeth the stroke of their wound."

Surely it will be for good and not evil, for joy and not sorrow, for strength and not weakness, if henceforth our rule shall be "One body and one spirit, even as" we "are called in one hope of" our "calling. One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in" us "all."

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Signed by order of the Committee.

William Adams, *Chairman.*

May 20, 1868.

The report of the Special Committee, to whom the above report was referred, is as followed:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the General Committee on Reunion, respectfully make their report:—

This report of the General Committee of this Assembly contains the "Terms and Recommendations" for Reunion, as the report of the Joint

Committee of both Assemblies, and which "Terms and Recommendations" have manifestly been most carefully prepared, are clear in statement, comprehensive of the whole subject of Reunion, and present a plain and intelligible basis on which the divided portions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States may again stand together. Summarily, the basis is as follows: The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments; the Confession of Faith as a System of Doctrine, and this to be received in the Reformed or Calvinistic sense; and the allowance of philosophical views and explanatory statements in the United Church which do not impair the integrity of the Calvinistic system. To these particulars, as the substance of the basis, other "Terms and Recommendations" are given, which may be considered as complementary to the former; and on this ground it is proposed that the two bodies again become permanently one.

To these "Terms and Recommendations," the report of the General Committee of this Assembly appends, as prefatory, such historic and explanatory statements "as may serve to convey to others the facts and motives which proved of such weight to themselves;" and also, as supplementary, a very clear and full comment on the body of the "Terms and Recommendations" [39] contained in the Joint Committee's report. The General Committee of the other Assembly append also, in their report to that body, the same comments and statements to the same joint "Terms and Recommendations." These appended statements and comments, it is understood, have been personally signed or expressly assented to by nearly all the members of the Joint Committee. This is deemed to be a very valuable and important part of the report which has been put into our hands, constituting an official and authoritative exposition of the meaning of the "Terms and Recommendations," and which exposition is given as clearly and conclusively as language can be used to explain language. It must preclude the practicability of any judicial application of the "Terms and Recommendations" beyond the meaning here affixed to them by the authors themselves. Though not the covenant itself of Reunion, it is a direct official interpretation of it, and such that any attempt to override it would be repelled by all the force of virtuous Christian indignation through the religious world.

While the basis of Reunion, given in these "Terms and Recommendations," may hopefully be expected to be found acceptable and even satisfactory to most of the members of both branches of the Church, it has already become manifest that it is not acceptable to all. Difficulties and objections, of probably opposite bearings, will be found in the different divisions of the Church; but it is of importance here to us, that we recognize only such as it may be apprehended will be felt and urged in our own body. Among the most prominent will be, doubtless, found a measure of hesitation and difficulty from objections somewhat in the following form:

"Various methods of viewing, stating, explaining, and illustrating the doctrines of the 'Confession of Faith' are to be freely allowed in the United Church as they have hitherto been allowed in the separate Churches," only they must "not impair the integrity of the Calvinistic system." And now, who shall decide whether the views do impair the integrity of the system? If there be a strenuous and rigid umpire, such will doubtless be found intolerant of opinions and interpretations contrary to its own. A mind cautious and jealous of all encroachment on religious liberty will doubt, and in proportion to his fears he will hesitate or object.

But is the danger here really formidable? Admit the majority of the ecclesiastical body must decide; but, in the way the members of our Presbyteries now will have their standing in the United Church then, will they be unsafe and exposed to oppression? Aside from the manifest liberality, and confidence, and love, which there must be in the members of the opposite branch before three-quarters of its Presbyteries shall vote us together, there are these quite impregnable safeguards. The man whose sentiments do not violate the Calvinistic system cannot be hurt. And if the fear still is that, in the opinion of the judicatory, the [40] sentiment may be in violation of the integrity of the Calvinistic system, and that this opinion of the judicatory must rule, the answer at once is, not the judicatory on its own opinion, but the judicatory as convinced that the opposite branch of the Church has allowed or not allowed the sentiment to be in consonance with the Calvinistic system. If the man is not out of the pale of his former church's orthodoxy, he cannot be in danger from any ecclesiastical court's rigidity or bigotry.

Danger from this cannot be further pressed without directly questioning the candor and honesty of the judicatory, and then we are at once beyond all Christian redress or regulation.

Another difficulty is with the churches that have their standing on the Plan of Union. They are to stand in the United body as they now stand in the New School body. They are, however, to be counseled, and expected to become thoroughly Presbyterian. So far there is no apprehension of complaint. But they are to be counseled and expected to do this "as early, within the period of five years, as is permitted by the highest interests to be consulted;" and in this there is fear of injury. Why specify five years? The inference prompted by the fear is, that such churches, remaining after the five years' counseling, are to be excluded. But such inference is wholly gratuitous. The five years is put to give earnestness to the counsel and definiteness to the expectation. Counsel to become thoroughly Presbyterian, and expectation that it will so be at a period running beyond five years, would be weakness. If this cannot be gained within that time, both counsel and expectation may there cease. This is as long as self-respect in the counsellor will allow of his working and waiting.

But what if all this fails, and some of these churches stand still on the old Plan of Union? The answer is, that though the inviolable agreement still allows them the same standing in the United body, yet that no more such churches are to be organized, and these few will not greatly trouble us, nor will they probably long desire to maintain their partial connection with the Presbyterian Church.

One other source of apprehended difficulty only need now be mentioned. It is in the expressed agreement "that the Presbyteries possess the right to examine ministers applying for admission from" another Presbytery. The position from which the objection comes is that the Presbyterian Church is a confederate body, and the confederacy is a unit, and membership in one place, with a fair paper of transfer, confers the right of membership in all places in the confederacy. This is doubtless safe practice and principle in all ordinary cases. But extremities become often necessities.

And now, suppose we take this doctrine of previous examination in cases of last extremities, or even suppose it to be held as very commonly allowable, what danger of oppression is there? Let the examination be as common or as rigid as it may, the ju[41]dicatory can do nothing against the man who is still within the pale of orthodoxy, according to the allowance of the old body with which he is in sympathy. The United Church is to fellowship the orthodoxy of both the present Churches.

Considerations like these induce your Committee to the conviction that, if the "Terms and Recommendations" are not all that one would wish, and even in some things are what one would wish they were not, yet, at the worst, they are not open to an oppressive or a dangerous use. There is a defence erected over which nothing but dishonesty can come to work us harm. The blessing of union, so accomplished, need not be feared as if about to be counterbalanced by coming injuries.

But, on the other hand, your Committee are convinced that there is not only danger of losing the possibility of Reunion, but of incurring very hazardous and perhaps ruinous results if the action be longer delayed. Should modifications be proposed, or conditions and new explanations be voted by ourselves, besides the certain distrust and jealousy promoted, there will inevitably be the meeting of this by counter-modifications, conditions, and explanations, and we shall run at once into the temper and spirit of theological controversy. The heart of brotherly unity will be wounded, alienated, and abandoned by both sides.

Should we determine to postpone action till another year, many of the churches will not delay. They will come together desultorily and more or less disorderly. Others will seek other connections, and confusion and disintegration will in wide regions ensue. The conviction of the importance of Reunion and the hope of its possession have been stricken too deeply into the heart of the churches to be now checked in safety. Even with much doubt of the wisdom of some of the "Terms and Recommendations," your Committee deem it best that the matter go down to the Presbyteries for their decision. Divisions and alienations among ourselves will be best precluded by letting the grand issue be at once decided.

It is, therefore,

Resolved, That this Committee recommend to the General Assembly the approval of the proposed terms of Reunion as given on pages 8, 9, and 10 of the report, and also the article on page 14, with the accompanying interpretations and explanations of the Joint Committee, and that the same be sent down as an Overture to our Presbyteries.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

The Permanent Clerk was directed to communicate the action of the Assembly upon the Joint Committee's report on Reunion to the General Assembly in session at Albany, N. Y.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the thanks of the General Assembly are due, and are hereby tendered, to the directors of the Pennsylvania [42] Central, Northern Central, and Hanover Branch and Gettysburgh Railroads, through the influence of Samuel T. Bodine, Esq., one of the directors of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, and a member of this body, for their signal generosity in placing at our disposal, without charge, their lines of railway, for the excursion to Gettysburgh battle-ground.

2. That we hereby express our thankful acknowledgments to J. N. Du Barry, Esq., superintendent of the Northern Central Railroad, for the accommodations of travel, by means of which our comfort and safety were secured.

3. That we beg to assure the good citizens of Gettysburgh that we shall ever gratefully remember their bountiful entertainment, and the generous hospitality of those who provided it.

4. That we hereby express to His Excellency, John W. Geary, Governor of Pennsylvania, our grateful appreciation of his kindness in accompanying us, and the pleasure we had in hearing his graphic narrative of the conflict in which he bore a part, so eminent and honorable.

5. That we hereby record on the Minutes of the Assembly our gratitude

to our Heavenly Father, that his care of us during the journey was such, that not one event occurred to mar the pleasure afforded by the excursion.

6. That, in view of all which, yesterday, we saw and heard, it is both our duty and privilege ever to render devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, who inspired our soldiers with valor so devoted, imbued their leaders with wisdom so discerning, and crowned their arms with such signal triumph in that crisis of the war, when the life of the Government seemed dependent on the result of the battle of Gettysburgh.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and united with a large congregation of Christian believers in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After a brief recess, the Assembly resumed its business.

The Mileage Committee presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That they have received for the Commissioners' Fund		$8255.57
" " " " " Contingent Fund		502.09
		$8757.66

[43]

Brought forward		$8757.66
The bills for the necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners amount to	$7256.00	
Contingent expenses	1500.00	
		$8756.00
Balance		$1.66

Ninety-three Presbyteries have paid their assessment in full.

Fourteen Presbyteries have paid but a part of their assessment, namely, Champlain, Troy, Onondaga, Cortland, Tioga, Ithaca, Rockaway, Monroe, Washtenaw, Trumbull, Franklin, St. Joseph, Schuyler, and Chicago.

Four Presbyteries have paid nothing, namely, Oswego, Chenango, Cincinnati, and Washoe.

The amount received by your Committee is sufficient to pay the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners, and they recommend that such as are entitled thereto be paid in full. They also recommend that the assessment for the next year be eight cents per member.

The unusually large attendance in the present Assembly, the Committee apprehend, is largely due to the operation of the plan adopted to secure the prompt payment of the amounts assessed upon the various Presbyteries; and they heartily commend the continuance of the plan adopted by the Assembly.

The Stated Clerk of each Presbytery should consider it his duty to give this subject such attention as to insure its complete success.

The Standing Committee on Church Erection presented their report, which was accepted and placed on the docket.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 30th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

An invitation was received from the "Grand Army of the Republic" to participate to-day in the decoration of the graves of deceased soldiers and sailors. The following response was adopted:—

The General Assembly, now in session at Harrisburgh, acknowledge the invitation extended to them to participate in the honors this day paid to our brave defenders, who periled and lost [44] their lives in "the high places of the field." They heartily concur in the remembrance, and in the sentiments so beautifully expressed in the symbolical forms to be this day observed.

The great pressure of business upon us, we regret to say, must excuse us from participating in the observance proposed.

We will, however, in our way cherish forever, and in our deepest hearts commend, the stricken survivors' widows and orphans, and bereaved parents, to the blessing of Him in whom dwells so much fulness, that he can repair the losses apparently irreparable. And that a committee of three be appointed to represent us on that occasion.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., and the Rev. William A. McCorkle were appointed the *Committee*, to whom the Hon. William E. Dodge was added.

The Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., the Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., and the Hon. William E. Dodge were appointed a *Committee to nominate* the Committee of five referred to on page 14 of the report of the Joint Committee on Reunion.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a request in behalf of Lyons Female College, Iowa, held in trust for the Synod of Iowa. They recommend that the General Assembly commend the Lyons Female College to the aid and support of the friends of education and religion. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported, on a memorial from the Presbytery of Union in reference to Maryville College, Tenn., as follows:

The Synod of Tennessee has been tried and found faithful in the midst of the divisions and calamities of the past years of conflict. This has been owing in a great degree to the influence of Maryville College, established more than fifty years since, and which has sent forth over one hundred and twenty ministers. The destitution of the region, devastated by the late war, is very great. Many feeble churches are without pastors. These cannot be supplied from our Northern institutions; they must be the sons of the soil, trained there for its needs. Already the college has sixty-two students, eager to learn, and two hard-working professors. It urgently needs sympathy and aid from without; for that Synod, though faithful and erect, is struggling with narrow means. In the future it will be a most important centre of influence for the best interests of learning and religion. The last Assembly recommended Maryville College to our churches. We are persuaded that it deserves a renewed and more earnest indorsement. Therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly cordially commend Maryville College, in East Tennessee, to the liberal aid of the friends and patrons of good learning, and of our Presbyterian faith and order.

The report was adopted. [45]

The Committee on the memorial to Congress, in reference to criminal laws and agents of their enforcement in Indian territories, presented a paper, which was adopted, and directed to be duly certified, and sent to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The church of the Covenant in New York City was unanimously chosen as the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

A *Committee of Arrangements* was appointed, consisting of the Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., the Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., Hon. William E. Dodge, John P. Crosby, Esq., Mr. D. Willis James, Mr. George W. Lane, and Charles A. Davison, Esq.

The Rev. George F. Stelling, the Delegate of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions presented their report, which was accepted. Pending its consideration,

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 30th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was resumed. The report was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee having carefully examined the seventh annual report of the Permanent Committee, and having consulted personally with several brethren able to give valuable information, respectfully report:—

The experience of the past year furnishes ample occasion for fervent thanksgiving to God for his favoring providence in respect to the extension of our Home Missionary work, and for his manifest blessing upon the work so far as it is extended; and at the same time for deep sorrow that the Committee have not been able to secure, by any means, a sufficient number of men or a sufficient amount of funds adequately to occupy the fields, full of promise, that are so rapidly opening.

Surely the first duty of this Assembly and of all its consecrated constituency is, to "pray the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." If he shall graciously incline large numbers of our young men to devote themselves to [46] this work, making them feel that they must preach the Gospel to their destitute countrymen, we have no fear that he will not incline his stewards, or else send his ravens, to sustain them. Let our young men rush "to the front," as they did in the war for the Union, and the supplies, and the parental benedictions, and the sisterly care and the divine blessing, will follow them as they did then.

The views and plans of the Permanent Committee, as set forth in their report, seem to us well considered and wise. Particularly:—

1. They call our attention to the Cherokees. They have caused that field to be explored by a judicious minister, whose report was published more than a year ago. They agree with the last General Assembly in regarding that field as one of peculiar interest and strong claims upon our Church; but they have thus far failed to find men to occupy it. God grant that this may not continue to be true! Surely we must not leave the churches established among that people, when theirs was a foreign missionary field, to die, in consequence of the poverty and disorganization brought upon them by the war, in which so large a part of them were true to the cause of our country, at such fearful cost to themselves.

2. The work among our countrymen of German birth or descent is recognized by the Committee as of peculiar and increasing interest and importance. We think that they are right in calling upon the Presbyteries to engage earnestly in this work, and promising heartily to co-operate with them in it.

3. We desire especially to engage the attention of the General Assembly

upon that part of the report which refers to the freedmen. The Permanent Committee have diligently investigated the difficult questions pertaining to that work, and have come to the conclusion that "it is the true policy of the Church to combine, as far as practicable, both parts of the work, evangelism and education, and to carry them on under its own direction." In this view we heartily concur; and we, therefore, recommend that the Committee be fully authorized and urgently desired to go forward in this work boldly and swiftly; remembering that the opportunity for it is precious and is fleeting; remembering, also, that no denomination of Christians has better opportunity to engage in this work advantageously; and that thus far we have only co-operated with agencies established by others, instead of taking our proper place by the side of others, with an appropriate agency of our own, for which we would be duly responsible.

There is no clearer reason why our people should be left in this position in this work than in any other work of evangelization. On the other hand, it is clearly ascertained that, entering the field as a Church, with our actual theology, polity, and history, we should have peculiar advantages for doing the work of evangelization effectively.

We recommend that the Committee enter vigorously upon the [47] work of sending ordained missionaries, and with them Christian teachers, especially women, who are ready to devote themselves in the true missionary spirit, to the work of instructing and evangelizing the emancipated people, and, at the same time, as they may find opportunity, the perhaps equally needy white population.

It seems to us probable that the vigorous prosecution of this department of our work may require the services of an Assistant Secretary; and we recommend that the Committee be authorized to employ one; and that they be requested to consider whether a layman may not be found fully competent to this work.

We believe also that special collections for this department of the work may be successfully obtained, in addition to the ordinary Home Missionary collections, and without diminishing them. We recommend that arrangements for this be made, and the accounts of the Treasurer be kept accordingly.

4. The employment of licentiates and candidates during the vacations of theological seminaries is an interesting new feature in the Home Missionary policy. We recommend the continuance of this as a valuable method of supplementary education for candidates for the ministry, and at the same time of directly contributing to the edification of churches and the evangelization of destitute neighborhoods. Great care should be taken, however, to prevent this from entangling the young men in engagements for the supply of pulpits, which will seriously interfere with their studies and exercises in the seminaries. We recommend that this part of the Committee's work be managed in careful conformity with the arrangements made by the instructors in the theological seminaries, and that the engagements of students for Home Missionary service be strictly limited to the vacations.

The honored and beloved General Secretary of the Permanent Committee, Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., after nearly seven years of constant and intense application to this arduous work, being found in a state of health which imperatively demanded a temporary respite from labor, has been advised and induced by the Committee to absent himself for a season from the country, for whose evangelization, throughout its whole vast extent, he has planned so wisely, toiled so patiently, and watched so vigilantly. The duties of the General Secretary during Dr. Kendall's absence are assumed (at the request of the Committee) by their Chairman, the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., whose official relations to the Committee and to the Church have made him familiar with the principles and details of this work, and whose eminent qualifications for such work are well known to the Assembly.

We recommend that the General Assembly express and record their hearty approbation of this action of the Permanent Committee; that they offer devout thanksgiving to God for the blessing which has attended our Secretary's important labors during the last seven years; and the fervent prayer that God will be with him and keep him in all places whither he goes, and will [48] bring him again into this land, and will here add many useful years to his life.

The term of service of Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., Mr. George W. Lane, and Mr. William Aikman, expires with this Assembly. We recommend their re-election for the next term of service. The places of Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., and Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., having become vacant by resignation, we recommend that Rev. Edward W. French and Rev. John De Witt be appointed to fill these vacancies in the class whose term of service will expire with the General Assembly of 1869.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee appointed to consider the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund have attended to the business assigned them, and respectfully beg leave to report as follows:—

The facts and suggestions of the Trustees' report invest the Church Erection cause with new interest, and demand the serious attention of all who love the kingdom of our Lord, and, in particular, of those who are loyal to the honored Church whose name we bear.

There has never been a time in the history of our Church, or in the history of our country, when the demand of our feebler churches for suitable houses of worship was so urgent as it is to-day. The Board of Trustees have shown with great clearness that the church building is scarcely less important to the interests of a congregation, in the new times on which we have fallen, than a minister of the Word; and it is justly urged, that the Assembly go forward, boldly and confidently, in the work of supply which has been begun only too late, and, with the encouragement of two years' experience, aim to place the great cause at once in the attitude before the people, which its magnitude demands, and into such efficiency as the multiplied calls of the field require.

Your Committee, therefore, suggest:

1. That the Plan for assisting feeble churches in erecting houses of worship, which was inaugurated in 1866, be carried out faithfully in all its material particulars; that the success which has already attended the operation of this new Plan, for the two years just expired, be considered a sufficient warrant for adopting this Plan as the settled policy of the Assembly, and for prosecuting it with tenfold energy. In the operation of this Plan some churches may receive less aid than they would otherwise receive, and in other particulars the Plan may have its offsets or inconveniences; but your Committee are persuaded that on no other plan yet proposed can we so readily and effectively bring the strength of the Church to bear in cultivating and widening the portion of the vineyard committed to us. [49]

2. Your Committee further suggest, that the efficiency of the Plan and the need of the churches make it desirable to exalt the Church Erection cause to a place second to none of the causes in which we are engaged; that,

instead of appointing a day or a month in which the collection shall be taken, as though it were outside and special, as relating to the ordinary work of the Church, the Assembly make a place for this cause in the regular schedule of benevolent causes, set apart a column for it in the Minutes of the Assembly, and in all respects indorse and acknowledge it in the same way it indorses and acknowledges any and all of the co-ordinate enterprises of the Church; and that the churches be urged to increase largely their contributions for the year that is now opening upon us.

3. It is also suggested, that the Assembly approve and urge attention to the following matters in detail, regard to which will greatly subserve the efficiency of the Plan by which the Assembly is endeavoring to do the work providentially assigned to us:

First. That pastors and elders, and all who have occasion to speak for the Church Erection cause, should call attention to the new form of bequest, which is framed to suit the new Plan of operation, in order that property bequeathed and devised may be immediately applied to the cause to which it is devoted, instead of being locked up to bear interest for time to come.

Second. As it is not the desire of the Assembly to check, but, on the other hand, to encourage private assistance and special donations to churches that are erecting houses of worship, and as, at the same time, the cause is safer and more efficiently prosecuted when the whole strength of the Church is combined and, in some way, put forth through the common channel, it is advised that these special donations, so far as the circumstances will allow, be made through the Assembly's Board.

Third. It is suggested that each congregation, able to raise $500 or more, be encouraged to donate their contribution to some particular church within or brought to their knowledge, that to the general motive there may be the additional incentive of a definite and local interest. Many, it is believed, will contribute freely to a church by name, and of whose affairs they have some knowledge, who would contribute meagrely to a fund expended they know not where.

Fourth. It is suggested that churches erecting houses of worship need to be on their guard against extravagance in their plans of building. The tendency of the times is somewhat reckless, to say the least, and many churches are brought into serious embarrassment by not sitting down first and carefully counting the cost. (And it may be hinted perhaps, parenthetically, that congregations that are able to build a sufficiently neat and commodious edifice. and who apply to the Church Erection Fund for means to adorn and beautify still further the house of God, are hardly within the range of the charities of the Assembly.) And it is suggested, that Presbyteries, district secretaries of Home [50] Missions, and pastors interest themselves to insure a judicious and economical expenditure of the funds of the Committee.

As supplementary to the foregoing suggestions, it is further proposed that the Trustees be empowered by the Assembly to enlarge the present plan of changing $200 of loan from the old Fund into a donation, so far as to allow $300 for $200, on condition that the remainder shall be paid.

In conclusion, your Committee commend this great cause, so vital to the growth of our Church in the newer portions of the country, to the hearty and earnest regards of the Assembly and of the Church, and urge that the people be trained, as speedily as possible, to look upon it as one of the mighty engines for the extension of the Church and the glory of God; that at least once during the year a sermon be preached by every pastor, in which the claims of the needy, and the feasibility of the Plan adopted by the Assembly, shall be faithfully set forth. We must be up and doing if we would have our share in the great work of subduing this broad land to the dominion of our blessed Lord and Master. And without a Church Erection enterprise in lively and efficient operation, we can only stagger when we ought to run; we can only glean when we ought to reap a full harvest.

Fifth. It is also recommended that the Plan of administering this Fund be so far modified that, in place of the Synodical Committee, a Committee be appointed in each Presbytery to supervise this work, and indorse the application to the Board.

The following persons are recommended to the Assembly to fill the vacancies reported by the Board: Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, and Mr. Albert N. Brown, for the full term of three years; and the Hon. William E. Dodge in the place of Mr. William A. Booth, resigned.

The Judicial Committee presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Judicial Committee report, that papers have come into their hands purporting to be an appeal from the Synod of Iowa. The papers are not, however, properly an appeal; they bear no date, and contain an acknowledgment that the notice of an appeal was not given within the prescribed time. The documents necessary to a review of the case are wanting. The Committee, therefore, report that there is no ground for action by the present Assembly, and recommend that the papers be returned to the appellant.

The Judicial Committee were discharged.

Resolved, That this General Assembly cordially reaffirm the following preamble and resolution, adopted by the General Assembly which met at Brooklyn, New York, in May, 1865:

Whereas, Through the wise and timely agency of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the [51] West, which had its origin in the darkest portion of our educational history in the new States, so many of our institutions of learning have been aided in their infancy, and not a few saved from absolute ruin, or raised from a state of feebleness or peril to one of strength and of readiness for efficient action in the crisis now opening upon the nation; therefore,

Resolved, That the great services, which this Society has thus been enabled to render to the cause of Christian learning at the West, deserve a grateful recognition by this Assembly.

The report of the Standing Committee on Education was taken up, adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee to whom the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education has been referred, respectfully report:

That, at the very commencement of the year from the last General Assembly, our beloved General Secretary of the Permanent Committee, the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, D. D., on the 19th of June, suddenly departed this life. On the 20th of February, the Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., having been previously elected to the vacant office, entered upon its duties. The interruption of official executive agency, together with other diverting influences, has occasioned a diminution of receipts for this year from the churches, while favoring providences and the spirit of God have considerably increased the number of beneficiaries. The amount of contributions received has been $17,507.59; which is a diminution of $3263 from the amount of the previous year's collections, while the decrease in the number of churches has been 90. On the other hand, the number of candidates for aid has been 205; which is an increase of 60 to the number for the last year.

Had it not providentially occurred, that assistance could be found in availing ourselves of a surplus accruing in previous years, when the country had called off the young men to her service, together with some legacies just then made available, the cause must have been most seriously embarrassed. But as it has been graciously ordered, the Committee have been able to aid every acceptable applicant, and a small balance of $143.39 remains in the treasury.

The past depression is not an occasion for future discouragement. Nothing will hinder the highest success, if the churches will wake to the Master's call, and appropriate to themselves his assured promises. The facilities for training a rising ministry were never greater. The academical and collegiate institutions of the country are elevating their standard of education, and augmenting their apparatus for instruction, and our Theological Seminaries have a growing capacity to receive, and an increased facility and efficiency to discipline, the young men whom the Church needs and should sustain. At great expense of time, study, and toil, our lamented brother Mills worked out, in connection with others, a general arrangement for looking up and inducing pious [52] young men to devote themselves to the Gospel ministry, and secure their needed support in their course of training by the direct agency of the Presbyteries; and, with this matured arrangement, the way is fairly open to prompt action and the persistent use of all the means provided. The call for laborers was never more urgent, and the prayers and the alms of Christian benevolence never came up as a more acceptable memorial before God, than in our day, and at this very time.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. The destitutions in the churches, and the wants of Home and Foreign Missions, make the Education cause an essential requisite to the progress of Christianity.

2. The Presbyteries are responsible if they allow the work to fail or linger, and they, too, may reap the rich reward if they are faithful to the work assigned them.

3. This General Assembly would enjoin upon the Presbyteries the full consideration of these solemn responsibilities and these inspiring encouragements.

The Committee recommend the re-appointment of the following persons to fill the vacancies, occurring on the expiration of their terms of office with this General Assembly, namely: Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., Mr. James W. Dunning, Mr. Ezra M. Kingsley, and Charles A. Davison, Esq.

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a communication from the Reformed Presbyterian Church, requesting this Assembly to co-operate in a movement for procuring an alteration in the Constitution of the United States, so as to give to it a distinctively Christian character, recommending that it be

Resolved. That it is inexpedient for this Assembly at the present time to make any declaration upon this subject.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee presented a further report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Certain papers submitted to this Committee show, that, out of 36 chaplains in the army of the United States, 21 are Episcopa[53]lians; that, in our navy, 16 chaplains of the 27 are also Episcopalians; that the chaplain at West Point has always been Episcopal, with for a few years a single exception; that the chaplaincy of the Naval Academy has also been filled by Episcopalians for 17 out of the 22 years of its existence; while at the same time the Episcopal Church does not, probably, minister to the fiftieth part of the population of the country, nor is the proportion of its adherents much, if at all, greater in our army and navy, or among the students at our military and naval academies.

Such favor to a single denomination is at war with the impartiality which our general Government, including the Department of War and the Navy, are bound to show in whatever pertains to religion.

Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America protest against such manifest and unjustifiable favoritism in the appointment of the army and navy chaplains.

2. That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare and send a memorial to Congress, asking for a redress of this irregularity, and that the same memorial be also sent to the Secretaries of the Army and of the Navy.

3. That this Committee report to our next Assembly upon this subject.

The *Committee* were appointed as follows: Rev. Albert Barnes, Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Hon. William E. Dodge, and Mr. Edward Miller.

The same Committee reported a communication from the Free Church of Scotland, asking this Assembly to unite in a plan for supplying Presbyterian worship in the chief cities of Europe for the convenience of English and American travelers. The Committee recommended,

That this Assembly declare its cordial sympathy with the proposed object, and its sense of the value and need of such services. That the Moderator, with the Stated and Permanent Clerks, be appointed to answer the above letter, to make further inquiries upon the subject, and to report to the next Assembly; and

That this *Committee* be instructed to ascertain whether any arrangement to secure the proposed object can be made through the American and Foreign Christian Union.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerks of our several Presbyteries be instructed to call the attention of their respective Presbyteries to the Assembly's Overture on Reunion, and to report the result of their action, in due season, to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. [54]

Resolved, That the report of the Joint Committee on Reunion, and the report thereupon of the Special Committee of this Assembly, and any other action of this Assembly pertaining thereto, be printed, and sent to all our Presbyteries, under direction of the Stated Clerk.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom were referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Publication, and the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, report as follows:

It cannot be necessary, that we should attempt to impress upon the minds of the members of this Assembly the importance of the Publication cause.

The report of the Permanent Committee presents the general views of the subject in a forcible and convincing manner. It sets forth, also, with clearness and distinctness, the progress of this work, as it has been prosecuted during the past year.

We feel it our duty to call attention renewedly to the great necessity of the active and earnest co-operation of pastors, church sessions, and churches, in order to the increased efficiency and success of this enterprise. It is obvious that comparatively little can be accomplished without this co-operation. The Committee has not as yet employed agencies, to any considerable extent, to promote the distribution of its publications; and it is plain that no recommendations from the General Assembly, or from our Synods or Presbyteries, will accomplish any great amount of good, unless pastors, elders, and people in our particular congregations take hold of the work and carry it forward by resolute and persevering endeavors. Let this be energetically done, and the usefulness of the Publication effort in our Church will be at once quadrupled.

In view of the increasing demand for donations to our Home Missionaries and our needy and multiplying Sabbath-schools, we would earnestly exhort our churches to the utmost fidelity and liberality in their annual collections for this cause. From a large proportion of the churches little or nothing is received for this object; and is there not room for a great advance upon the contributions that are now made to the treasury of the Committee—even from those churches that give the most freely for the furtherance of this enterprise? May it not be hoped that every church in our connection will enlist in this work and help it forward with a generous spirit? The publications of the Committee ought to be speedily placed in every family of our denomination, and in all our Sabbath-schools throughout the length and breadth of our land. Let all our ministers and churches do their full share for the accomplishment of this great result, and blessings untold will be conveyed to a multitude of hearts and homes.

We desire, also, to invite special attention to that portion of [55] the report which relates to the *Presbyterian Monthly*. All denominations of Christians, that are efficient in the work of benevolence, have their monthly publications devoted to the important object of keeping the several benevolent enterprises of the Church before the minds of the people. But of what avail is it to publish a monthly for such a purpose, if it be not circulated and read? The circulation of our *Monthly* ought to be greatly extended, and this immediately. Let every pastor and elder take hold of this matter; and by a comparatively slight effort the *Presbyterian Monthly* will find its way into thousands of our families where its very existence is now unknown.

It is a question worthy of serious consideration, whether a system of colportage might not be advantageously inaugurated by the Publication Committee, especially with a view to the distribution of our publications in the congregations of our own Church, and in new communities where there are Presbyterian families that have no churches of our order within their reach. Whatever depots may be provided in different sections of the country for the publications of the Committee, they will not be generally sought after and sent for, through mere notices of the places where they may be found. In these days, when all kinds of literature are carried to the doors of the people, our publications must be actually offered to the churches and individuals for whose benefit they are designed, if they are to be very widely distributed; and especially will this be found true in our newer States and Territories. We are aware that any system of colportage would involve expense, and would encounter the difficulty of finding suitable men to carry it forward. But would not the returns from the practical influence of such a system, in the form of increased contributions from the churches to be supplied with the publications, very soon compensate for all the expense of this branch of the work? And could not efficient laymen be found to engage in this effort, who would give to it their time and energies on very moderate salaries? Confiding in the practical wisdom of the Permanent Committee, we venture to recommend, that they be instructed to institute a system of colportage, with especial reference to the distribution of the publications of the Committee, throughout all the congregations in our connection, as far as may, in their judgment, be found practicable and expedient.

Your Committee recommend the election of the following persons to fill the places of members of the Permanent Committee whose term of office has expired:

Rev. William E. Moore, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., Mr. William E. Tenbrook, Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., and Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D.

We find from the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House that the interests intrusted to their care are in a satisfactory condition.

We call the attention of the Assembly to the request of the [56] Trustees, that they may be authorized to "retain five per centum of all moneys received and disbursed by them, until the sum retained shall amount to one thousand dollars, and after that to retain, at their discretion, a rate not exceeding three per centum," for the purpose of enabling them to meet contingencies, involving expense, that are liable to arise in the administration of their trust. This request has been made by the Trustees in view of the fact that they have been obliged to unite with other parties in instituting legal proceedings for the protection, if possible, of the Douglas Trust, for the expenses of which they had no adequate provision, and have therefore "been compelled to ask from the Societies which have received income from the Douglas Trust the return of such ratable proportions as may be needed." Other similar necessities are liable to occur; and therefore we recommend that the request of the Trustees be granted.

We recommend the re-election of the following Trustees whose term of office has expired: Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., Mr. Alexander Whilldin, Rev. Albert Barnes, and Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D. We exceedingly regret to learn that Mr. John A. Brown is constrained, by the state of his health, to decline a re-election, and would nominate Mr. William E. Tenbrook to take his place.

The complaint of the Rev. Levi P. Crawford against the Synod of Peoria was taken up, and the announcement, required by the 39th General Rule for Judicatories, made by the Moderator. The Records of the Synod, so far as bearing on the case, and the complaint of Mr. Crawford, were read. An agreement between complainant and the Rev. Glen Wood, counsel for the Synod, concerning the basis of the Assembly's decision, was read.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The trial of the complaint of Rev. Levi P. Crawford against the Synod of Peoria was resumed. The Rev. Levi P. Crawford addressed the Assembly in support of his complaint, and the Rev. Glen Wood presented the case in behalf of the Synod. After which the further hearing was suspended to receive a special delegation from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Albany, N. Y.

The Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., and Elders Robert Carter and Henry Day then ad[57]dressed the Assembly, presenting, in behalf of their Assembly, a proposition to modify the approved Basis of Reunion, as follows:—

The following paper was adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now in session in Albany, N. Y., on this 30th day of May, A. D. 1868:

While the Assembly has approved of the report of the Joint Committee on Reunion, it expresses its preference for a change in the first item in the Basis, leaving out the following words, namely: "It being understood that the Confession is received in its historical—that is, the Calvinistic or Reformed—sense. It is also understood that various methods of viewing, stating, explaining, and illustrating the doctrines of the Confession, which do not impair the integrity of the Reformed or Calvinistic system, are to be freely allowed in the United Church, as they have hitherto been allowed in the separate Churches." The Assembly believes, that by omitting these clauses the Basis will be more simple and more expressive of mutual confidence; and the Permanent Clerk is directed to telegraph this proposed amendment to the Assembly at Harrisburgh, and, if that Assembly shall concur in the amendment, it shall become of effect, as the action of this Assembly also.

The Assembly also appoints the Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D., the Rev. Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., and Ruling Elders Robert Carter and Henry Day a *Committee* to proceed to Harrisburgh, and personally to lay this action before the other Assembly.

(A true copy.) W. E. Schenck,
Permanent Clerk.

The Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., and the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., with the Elders, Hon. William E. Dodge and Mr. Edward Miller, were appointed to confer with the delegation from the other General Assembly, and to recommend to this Assembly such action as they deem suitable in the case.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Rev. Jo[58]seph F. Tuttle, D. D., and the Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., were appointed the *Committee of Five* referred to on page 14 of the report of the Joint Committee on Reunion.

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools presented their report, which was accepted and placed on the docket.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly are due and are hereby tendered to the Joint Committee on Reunion, for the eminent zeal, fidelity, patience, and Christian wisdom with which they have performed the important work intrusted to them.

The Committee on Church Polity reported two questions with the recommendation that they be answered in the negative:

1st. Is an elder elect a member of the session, and competent to sit in a judicial case before he has been ordained according to the Form of Government?

2d. Would a decision in a case of discipline, made by a session whose members have never been ordained according to the Form of Government, Chap. XIII., be a valid and lawful decision, and binding upon the accused?

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported the following case and question:

Mr. C., an acting-elder of the church of C., having taken a certificate of dismission, and having retained it about three years, returned it to the session of the church of C., giving satisfactory reasons for not using it, and was restored to the membership of the church. Does the receiving again by the session reinstate Mr. C. as an acting-elder of the church of C.?

The Committee recommended that the answer be in the affirmative.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported an Overture, asking if it be in accordance with ecclesiastical law, and order in the Church, to receive members of another church who have not been regularly dismissed, with a view to such change of relation.

The Committee recommended that, so far as churches in our own connection are concerned, the question be answered in the negative, and refer to the Book of Discipline, Chap. XI., sec. 1.

The report was adopted.

The complaint of Rev. Mr. Crawford was taken up. The Roll was called, and every member had the opportunity to express his opinion on the case. Thereupon it was

Resolved, That on the ground of admitted irregularities, as seen in the Minutes of the Synod, pp. 226–7, the complaint be sustained, and the decision of the lower judicatories be reversed.

The Committee to confer with the Delegates of the other [59] General Assembly recommended the following minute, which was adopted:

This Assembly has heard with profound satisfaction, and reciprocates with cordial fellowship, the statement of the delegation from the General Assembly at Albany about the plan of Reunion.

In respect, however, to the proposition for a change in Article 1st, as our Assembly is on the eve of an adjournment and greatly reduced in numbers:—

Resolved, That we regret that no action can now be had upon this subject, as it cannot, according to our rules, be reconsidered and amended at the present sessions of the Assembly; nor can the proposed amendment be now sent down to our Presbyteries in such a form as that its adoption would be of any legal effect.

Resolved, That the Committee of Fifteen on Reunion be continued, and that the other Assembly be requested to appoint a similar Committee, to co-operate with this, in furnishing such information as they may deem best to the churches, in order to secure intelligent action on the subject of Reunion.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., the Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and Elders, Henry W. Williams, and Truman P. Handy, were appointed a *Committee of Conference* on the part of the Assembly, in response to the request of the National Presbyterian Convention held at Philadelphia, in November, 1867.

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministers' Libraries presented as their report the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly direct its Presbyteries to send to the churches under their care a pastoral letter of inquiry and suggestion, with reference to the provision of a manse and a library for the use of the minister in charge of each congregation.

Resolved, 2. That the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery is instructed to bring the foregoing resolution to the notice of the Presbytery, and to forward to the next General Assembly any information that may be obtained in the answers to the proposed inquiry.

The resolutions were adopted, and the Committee continued.

The Standing Committee on Nominations recommended the following as Delegates to Corresponding Bodies:—

1. *General Assembly of the other Branch*—Rev. William Adams, D. D., and Hon. William E. Dodge, of the Fourth Presbytery of New York, principals; and Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, and Hon. Edward A. Lambert, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, alternates. [60]

2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D., of the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, principal; and Rev. Horace C. Hovey, of the Presbytery of Salem, alternate.

3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh, principal; and Rev. Frederick A. Noble, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, alternate.

4. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America*—Rev. Francis B. Wheeler, of the Presbytery of North River, principal; and Rev. V. Leroy Lockwood, of the Presbytery of Catskill, alternate.

5. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America*—Rev. George N. Boardman, D. D., of the Presbytery of Tioga, principal; and Rev. Charles Dunning, of the Presbytery of Montrose, alternate.

6. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.

7. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. Rollin A. Sawyer, of the Presbytery of Dayton, principal; and Rev. Luman A. Aldrich, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.

8. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. A. Boardman Lambert, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, principal; and Rev. Selah B. Treat, of the Presbytery of Newark, alternate.

9. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; and Rev. George W. Wood, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, alternate.

10. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., LL.D., of the Presbytery of Troy, principal; and Rev. John R. Young, of the Presbytery of Albany, alternate.

11. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts*—Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., of the Presbytery of Utica, principal; and Rev. Edwin A. Bulkley, of the Presbytery of Champlain, alternate.

12. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, principal; and Rev. Arthur Mitchell, of the Presbytery of Newark, alternate.

13. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Arthur Swazey, of the Presbytery of Chicago, principal; and Rev. Hiram Eddy, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee, alternate.

The Committee have appointed the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., of the Presbytery of Utica, and the Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, as Delegates to the General [61] Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools was taken up, amended, adopted, and is as follows:—

The Standing Committee submits for the action of the Assembly the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That each pastor be recommended to organize the officers, teachers, and older pupils of the school or schools, connected with his church, into a teacher's training-class, to meet weekly, to be conducted by the pastor or some one else whom he may approve, to study, not so much the lessons for the ensuing Sabbath as the principles and art of teaching. Such a leader should be qualified to give instruction in regard to the best manner of preparing a Sabbath-school lesson, in the various methods of teaching, in the art of questioning and of illustration, in the use of the blackboard or slate, and of objects or pictures; also in the duties and privileges of the teacher, as well in his relation to his class as to the school and to the church.

Resolved, That the Committee on Sabbath-schools, appointed by each Presbytery, be recommended to make earnest efforts to secure the holding of at least one Sabbath-school Institute each year, within the bounds of the Presbytery, the Institute to be held two or more days in charge of some suitable conductor for instruction in the best methods of Sabbath-school teaching.

Resolved, That, while highly appreciating the importance of the Sabbath-school, and the desirableness of its elevation and improvement as an agency of the Church, it is not deemed expedient at this time to take action for the fuller organization of the Assembly's Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools.

Resolved, That Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Rev. Charles Hawley, D. D., and Mr. George W. Parsons, be re-elected for the term of three years, and that Hon. Thomas T. Flagler be chosen in place of Hon. Truman P. Handy, and Mr. Alexander H. Graves in place of Mr. Andrew A. Smith.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Stated Clerk was authorized to print the reports of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Records of the Synod of Iowa were approved as far as written. The Records of the Synod of Peoria, with the exception of the matter of the complaint of Rev. Levi P. Crawford, were approved as far as written.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The effort to extend the knowledge of the pure Gos[62]pel in Roman Catholic countries is justly to be regarded as a vitally important branch of the cause of Foreign Missions, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly earnestly commends to its Presbyteries the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union, and urges that effort be made to secure for this agency its appropriate share in the contributions of the churches.

Resolved, 2. That the collections for this object be included in the sessional reports to Presbyteries in combination with the amount contributed to the American Board of Foreign Missions.

The Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, and Messrs. William E. Dodge, and Albert N. Brown, were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve three years.

The Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Ezra E. Adams, D. D., and Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins, Alexander Whilldin, and William E. Tenbrook, were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to serve three years.

Messrs. Joseph F. Joy, Joseph W. Lester, and Tredwell Ketcham, were elected Auditors of the Church Erection Fund for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the General Assembly have heard with approval of the resolution and plan of the Presbytery of Newark to establish, in the city of Newark, or its vicinity, a Mission House for Ministerial Education among the Germans; and would rejoice to hear of similar action in other Presbyteries in the interest of the increasing number of Germans coming yearly to our land.

Resolved, That this General Assembly express its deep conviction of the importance of the work of the American Bible Society, especially the re-supply of the whole country with the Word of God, now in course of successful prosecution, and the preparation of the Arabic Scriptures, and other foreign versions, which render the Sacred Oracles accessible to millions of our fellow-beings in other lands.

With hearty confidence in the Society, and a desire to see its labors yet more efficiently and liberally supported, the Assembly earnestly commends its claims to the consideration of our ministers and churches.

Resolved, That the American Seamen's Friend Society, organized to promote the social and moral improvement of seamen, proposes a work that, in the judgment of the Assembly, is intimately connected with the promised conversion of "the abundance of the sea," and the universal extension of the Redeemer's kingdom.

Resolved, That we rejoice to learn that the work of the Society has been attended by signal indications of the Divine favor, and that we commend it to the sympathy and aid of our churches. [63]

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to its churches the observance of the week, beginning with the first Sabbath of January next, as a week of special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend the observance of the day of special prayer for Colleges and Seminaries of learning.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, during the sessions of this Assembly, to elect Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bill for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

By a unanimous and hearty vote, the Assembly adopted the following resolution of thanks:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this General Assembly are hereby most gratefully tendered to the citizens of Harrisburgh, whose large-hearted hospitality has been so fully developed, in providing for the entertainment of the Commissioners and Delegates in attendance on the Assembly.

Also, to the Trustees of the First church for the use of their beautiful and commodious house of worship; to the well-trained and excellent choir, for their valuable and agreeable services; to the Committee of Arrangements, and especially to their chairman, the beloved pastor of the church, for the admirable manner in which they have provided every facility for the regular and comfortable transaction of the business of the Assembly.

Also, to the conductors of the daily press, and especially *The State Guard*, for their extended reports of the Assembly's proceedings.

Also, to the directors of the several railroad companies, who have so courteously and kindly consented to a reduction of the usual fare on their respective roads, for the accommodation of the Assembly.

The business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the church of the Covenant, in the city of New York, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1869.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER.
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MAY, 1868.

STANDING at the end of thirty years in the history of a great denomination, we may profitably revert, in this connection, to the course of that history, and notice some among the prominent characteristics in the religious development of this portion of the Christian Church.

Dividing this period into decades, we discover, first, an era of aggregation and assimilation on the part of the scattered fragments remaining after the disruption. Not only those churches and ecclesiastical bodies whose connection with the old Presbyterian stock was severed by that act, but also others in various portions of the country, inspired by sympathy with them as to doctrine and position, were thus early drawn together, bone to his bone and flesh to his flesh. The coalescence of these congenial elements resulted, in a comparatively brief period, in the organizing of a new Church—a Church possessing a high degree of religious vitality, full of vigor and of hope, and in some respects peculiarly fitted to do a good and great work for Christ.

In the second decade, we discern a measure of progress and growth every way remarkable, when considered in contrast with the youthfulness of the denomination, and with the unfavorable circumstances among which it struggled toward maturity. This growth and progress were attained far less through any adjustments of polity, or any positive attempts at denominational action, than by the faithful and effective preaching of the Word, by the conversion of souls through the truth, by the culture of believers in holiness, and the increase of piety in the individual church. And, though the lack of such denominational activity, and of a polity clearly understood, led during this era to some losses on various sides; and though irreconcilable diversities respecting Slavery constantly agitated the young denomination, and finally brought on the withdrawal of those who constituted its representatives at the South, yet the era closed with a decisive advance in the number of churches and communicants, and in nearly every other element which would indicate a healthful and fruitful Christian life.

The third decade, just closing, has been a period of organization and consolidation, in respect both to doctrine and polity, and to various forms of religious activity. A clearer adjustment of our ecclesiastical system has been secured; more uniform and harmonious methods of stating and applying the Gospel have been attained; a more judicious and productive theory of church action is at length recognized and adopted. Not only the current year, but every year in this decade, has borne progressive testimony to a great structural change in these particulars—a change effected at no serious loss in respect to the past, prolific of good in many directions, and full of promise for the future. As we stand at the close of this period, we are permitted in this matter to recognize, in a peculiar way, the good hand of our God upon us; we are permitted to see him, not only bringing us through this formative stage at no sacrifice of unity or of spirituality, but also thus endowing and equipping us for more vigorous action, for larger and wiser enterprises, for a nobler work and a nobler testimony in time to come.

Studying the general history of the denomination during these three periods, which are thus seen to stand in the order of a sound and healthful development, we observe many indications of a continuous progress in all that constitutes true growth. Each of these periods shows an advance on the preceding in respect to the number of communicants, churches, and denominational organizations. Each indicates an increase in internal strength and resources, and an improvement in outward position, and in relation to other branches of the Church of Christ. Each exhibits an enlargement of territory as well as of plans, and a steady movement of the denomination parallel with the amazing march of the nation toward a continental magnitude. Our beloved Church was providentially planted, at the first, along those lines of latitude where the various elements of New England life meet and mingle with those from the more central and southern States. Like every other American influence or institution that is vital, it moved westward, along the same or neighboring parallels, planting new churches in every rising State, sending its missionaries among the pioneers of each opening territory, constantly striving to plant the standard of its doctrine and polity wherever American civilization extends. For its devotion to the cause of freedom it has, indeed, been excluded from the Southern States; yet it is a suggestive fact, that the ninety-six Narratives received by your Committee came from Presbyteries representing no less than seventeen States and four Territories, and that these States and Territories lie exactly in that central zone of influence in which American ideas bloom most freely, and in which our American life—political, social, religious—finds its noblest expression.

This geographical distribution of our Church is a fact to be carefully taken into the account, in studying its religious history, even for a single year. For, although the Gospel is equally precious to men of all latitudes, and although the Spirit of grace be not limited by the boundaries of States, it still is true that our interpretation of that Gospel finds easier access to certain types of mind than to others, and that our churches take root more or less readily, according to the general character of the communities wherein they are planted. The Presbyterial Narratives themselves suggest this diversity. In some instances they speak of forms of hindrance and sources of discouragement, which are not felt universally; in others, they allude to successes and advances for which, so far as visible conditions extend, it would be unreasonable to look elsewhere. The growth of a Christian denomination does depend, in some degree, not merely on its internal qualities or purposes, but likewise on its position, and on the external circumstances affecting it. The history of our churches in the older States, lying east of the Alleghanies, cannot be exactly identical with the history of those subsequently organized in the States between the mountains and the Mississippi, or of those still different churches more recently planted beyond the Father of Waters. A similar variety will be found to exist among the churches along the borders of either of these grand divisions, as is plainly indicated by the Narratives from Northern and Southern Ohio respectively, or from the contiguous States of Michigan and Indiana. And, in considering the state of religion for the current year, it is our duty to take such diversities into the account, and to estimate the measure of success attained, with suitable reference to the external as well as the internal conditions under which that success was secured.

Taken in general, the history of our churches during the year now closed must be regarded as one of marked prosperity. Though the Presbyterial Narratives do not furnish sufficient statistical information, yet they convey the impression of a decided advance in many important directions. The number of sanctuaries erected or essentially repaired, or of instances where indebtedness for houses of worship previously erected has been paid; of mission schools or enterprises provided with fitting accommodations; and of parsonages built or purchased, and ministerial libraries procured, is probably greater than in any previous year in our history as a denomination; the general increase of wealth, since the close of the war, exhibiting itself in these as in so many secular directions. Some of the Presbyteries report a corresponding measure of equitable liberality in the support of the ministry, and such reports may properly be regarded as the index of a general, though by no means universal fact. It is believed that a similar increase of benevolence is manifesting itself, at least in some sections of the Church, in the assistance of candidates for the ministry, and in the endowment of institutions consecrated to the cause of Christian education.

Another interesting sign of prosperity appears in increased attendance upon the various means of grace, in a marked advance in the Sabbath-school work, and in the general favor with which our churches and ministry have been regarded. It is obvious that many of the prejudices once entertained against our denomination, in certain sections, have not only ceased to exist, but have been supplanted by a sincere respect and a cordial sympathy, which furnish ground for the strongest hope in the future. Many Presbyteries afford decided evidence of this in their statements respecting both the enlargement of congregations and the ingathering of youth for religious instruction. It is safe to say, that in no previous year has so large an aggregate of adult minds been brought within our denominational influence; and although the number of pupils in our Sabbath-schools has, in previous years, exceeded the entire aggregate of our church-membership, the Minutes of the present Assembly will probably indicate a gratifying advance in this direction also.

The work of denominational extension, and of aggressive effort in behalf of the Gospel, has been efficiently carried forward during the year. What has been presented in general, in the reports of the Permanent Committees of Home Missions and Church Erection, highly encouraging as it is, is abundantly confirmed by the more detailed statements given in the Presbyterial Narratives. Though these Narratives indicate the existence of many scores of vacant and destitute churches, numbers of which are without suitable sanctuaries, yet we have great occasion to rejoice in what, by the Divine blessing, has been accomplished through these instrumentalities. This great want has at least been partially supplied. In the work of diffusing a sound denominational and Christian literature through our Publication Committee, and through the excellent newspapers devoted to our interests, much has been done, at least in some sections of the Church, for which we have equal occasion to rejoice.

The year has been one of spiritual blessing. While a few of the Presbyteries confess that declension and worldliness have prevailed within their borders, the general testimony is of a very different character. Although the Narratives do not afford such statistical information as would show just how many churches have been revived, or how many additions have been made to such churches in the aggregate, yet their statements indicate, in a marked degree, the presence of the Spirit of God among our congregations. And where signal revivals have not occurred, that Spirit has still revealed his presence in general attentiveness to the Word preached, in the edifying of saints, in many silent conversions to Christ. Several of the Presbyteries bear witness to such quiet and continuous visitations of the Holy Ghost, descending as the rain upon the mown grass, and greatly gladdening the heart of his Church, even when more copious showers of converting influence were withheld. As a whole, the year has been one of unusual blessing, not simply in respect to the temporal welfare of the churches, or to their exterior work and influence, but likewise in that inward experience of the truth, that conscious growth in piety, that enlarged spiritual life, from which, as from a vital seed, all outward prosperity must proceed.

While we thus discover much in the Narratives of the Presbyteries that is fitted to inspire joy and gratitude, these Narratives present some unfavorable facts which should call out our deepest and gravest concern.

The first of these is the fact that, notwithstanding the degree of success attending our Home Missionary work, one-sixth of all the churches in our connection now are unsupplied with the stated ministry of the Word. Some of these are but temporarily in this condition ; but there are multitudes of public organizations, scattered through our vast missionary field, which must be regarded as permanently unable to make provision for their own spiritual wants. In the single State of Ohio, 59 out of 187 churches were reported to the last Assembly as vacant ; and although some of these have since been supplied with preachers, and others have either perished from exhaustion, or united with other denominations in order to preserve life, yet it is safe to say that as many as one in five of our churches in that State are now destitute of regular ministrations. Similar though not equal destitution exists in other portions of that great triangle, formed by the lakes on the north, and by the Mississippi and the Ohio on the west and south, which must be regarded, for the present generation at least, as the main missionary field of our Church. In that triangle, more than one hundred and fifty vacant churches were reported to the Assembly one year ago ; and the Presbyterial Narratives for the current year do not justify the hope that this number has been greatly diminished. While such vacancies as occur even on missionary grounds in the older States are readily supplied, and while the regions beyond the Mississippi are attracting to themselves large numbers of laborers, this great central region, or at least the southern half of it, is suffering great, and perhaps increasing, destitution. For every church established in the States and Territories west of the Mississippi, a church languishes and dies in Ohio or the contiguous States ; and should this condition of things long continue, our denomination will be broken in two at the centre, and our hold on the central West be lost forever.

The other startling fact is the lack of men to fill these numerous vacancies—a lack which is confessed and deplored by the Presbyteries in all portions of our denominational territory. While the number of ministers on the Roll exceeds the whole number of churches by more than three hundred, the vacancies reported to the Assembly of 1867 were above three hundred and fifty. These statistics would seem to indicate that, subtracting the number of foreign missionaries, nearly one-third of our ministry were not at that time filling the pastoral office, and also to imply that there is little need of additional laborers. Yet the vancancies continue to exist, and the solemn and urgent call for help comes up to us with each successive year. These hundreds of feeble, languishing, dying churches must not be suffered to perish; and men must be found who will be willing to take these churches in their weakness, and nourish them into hope, and strength, and self-support. Our denomination needs missionaries, in the old heroic sense of that term; and if there be not piety enough in the churches to produce and train such missionaries, and to sustain them in their arduous work, we may well fear and tremble for the result.

Some of the Presbyteries seem to anticipate relief from these kindred evils in and through Reunion; and forcibly present the lack of suitable laborers and the lamentable destitution of the churches in both of the bodies to be united, as among the strongest arguments for such union. It now seems probable that the validity and reach of this argument will soon be practically tested; yet it must not be forgotten that, separate or united, we shall never cease to need missionaries, both to supply existing churches, and to bear our standard into new regions as they open before us. Especially will this be made manifest when we enter in earnest upon the great task of evangelizing the South, as well as the remoter West, and attempt to prosecute, on any larger scale, that vast work among the freedmen which has already been auspiciously begun.

The Presbyterial Narratives allude frequently and earnestly to other and more general hindrances repressing our denominational growth. While the spirit of benevolence has been manifested in an unusual degree, and while the aggregate of contributions probably exceeds that of any previous year, yet there is reason to believe that the contagious worldliness everywhere abroad in the land is sadly affecting the Church, and diminishing and paralyzing her efforts for Christ and his cause. There is also reason for believing that, although the general tone of piety within the Church has been improved, and religion, pure and undefiled, has made progress in the hearts of the people of God, the outlying wickedness of the land remains almost unaffected. Notwithstanding earnest efforts made in some of the Presbyteries to correct them, the great vices of profanity, gambling, disregard of the Sabbath, and especially intemperance, still retain their hold upon the hearts of men, and in some quarters seem to be even increasing in virulence and destructiveness. It becomes us to realize the existence of such unholy and hurtful tendencies, and as a denomination to give ourselves more generally and more earnestly to the task of arresting them, and of rescuing those who are perishing under their contamination.

It has already been said that Narratives have been received from ninety-six of the one hundred and eleven Presbyteries connected with our denomination. The following Presbyteries have failed to report: Troy, St. Lawrence, Wellsborough, Delaware, Meadville, Athens, Fort Wayne, Fox River, Des Moines, Omaha, Chariton, Kingston, San Francisco, San José, and Washoe. The absence of these documents, of course, diminishes by just so much the material and the value of this general Narrative.

We are called to record the decease of no less than thirty-seven ministers during the year. Four of this number had reached that period of life, when human strength becomes labor and sorrow; and nine others had passed the allotted threescore years and ten. Yet the larger part were brethren upon whom the active duties of their sacred calling still devolved; and some there were, whom the Master called in the prime of their manhood, just as they had fully entered upon their ministerial career. Let the lessons inculcated by such unusual mortality reach and affect every heart, and let us so live and act that, like these departed ones, we may, when absent from the body, be present with the Lord. The list of the deceased is as follows:

NAME.	AGE.	DATE.	PLACE.	PRESBYTERY.
Averill, Bradford Y.	34	July 12, 1867.	Chicago, Ill.	Chicago.
Bartlett, Charles L.	63	Sept. 16, 1867.	Taberville, Mo.	Chicago.
Beach, Ebenezer C.	66	April 26, 1868.	Lysander, N. Y.	Onondaga.
Camp, Phineas.	80	Jan. 30, 1868.	Dixon, Ill.	Galena and Belvidere.
Clark, Lemuel.	61	April 21, 1868.	Westford, N. Y.	Galena and Belvidere.
Coffin, N. Cogswell.	52	Jan. 9, 1868.	Marblehead, O.	Huron.
Crabb, Isaac.	...	............, 1867.	Fairfield, Mich.	Monroe.
Davis, John W.	67	Aug. 5, 1867.	Harrisburgh, Pa.	Harrisburgh.
Davis, Samuel R.	68	April 20, 1868.	Englishtown, N. J.	Newark.
Deming, Rufus R	75	April 12, 1868.	Constable, N. Y	Champlain.
DeWitt, William R., D. D.	75	Dec. 23, 1867.	Harrisburgh, Pa.	Harrisburg.
Elliott, John W.	43	Mar. 12, 1868.	Washington, D. C.	Holston.
Ferry, William M	71	Dec. 30, 1867.	Grand Haven, Mich.	Grand River Valley.
Ford, Marcus, D. D.	74	June 17, 1867.	Binghamton, N. Y.	Tioga.
Hayes, Harvey H., D. D.	71	July 20, 1867.	Rock Island, Ill	Keokuk.
Higbie, Daniel.	53	Oct. 20, 1867.	Spencer Springs, N. Y.	Hudson.
Hurd, Nathaniel.	65	Oct. 23, 1867.	Kewanee, Ill.	Rochester.
Johnson, Daniel.	83	Oct. 11, 1867.	Fairport, N. Y.	Rochester.
Judson, David F.	43	Nov. 22, 1867.	Seneca, Kan	Steuben.
Le Duc, Charles S.	46	March 9, 1868.	Troy, Kan	Winona.
Lord, Nathan L., M. D.	46	Jan. 24, 1868.	New York City, N. Y.	Cleveland and Portage.
Lounsbury, Thos., D. D.	78	Oct. 29. 1867.	Ovid, N. Y.	Geneva.
McCullough, Samuel J.	58	Dec. 20, 1867.	Tioga, Pa.	Wellsborough.
McMurray, Joseph E.	49	Jan. 27, 1868.	Cerro Gordo, Ill.	Wabash.
Mallery, Daniel G.	43	April 13, 1868.	Beverly, N. J.	Philadelphia, 4th.
Mills, Henry, D. D.	81	June 10, 1867.	Auburn, N. Y.	Cayuga.
Mills, Thornton A., D. D.	57	June 19, 1867.	Hoboken, N. J.	Indianapolis.
Monteith, John	81	April 5, 1868.	Elyria, Ohio.	Cleveland and Portage.
Morton, Joseph Lyman	33	Dec. 10, 1867.	Waukegan, Ill.	Chicago.
Nash, Alvan.	69	Mar. 17, 1868.	Corry, Pa.	Erie.
Newbury, Samuel.	65	Mar. 22, 1868.	Dubuque, Io.	Cedar Rapids.
Pierce, Edward A.	29	Feb. 23, 1868.	Tallahassee, Fla.	Chicago.
Pomeroy, Medad.	75	June 20, 1867.	Auburn, N. Y	Cayuga.
Powell, David.	64	June ..., 1867.	North Java, N. Y.	Rochester.
Richardson, Lyman.	77	Oct. 1, 1867.	Harford, Pa.	Montrose.
Robinson, Joseph H	32	March 4, 1868.	Cornwall Land'g, N. Y.	North River.
Woodruff, Silas R.	61	April 14, 1868.	Leavenworth, Kan.	Champlain.

By order of the General Assembly.

JONATHAN F. STEARNS, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORT

Of the Joint Committees upon Legal Questions touching Reunion. In the Matter of the Reunion of the Presbyterian General Assemblies.

Report.

We, members of the Committee appointed under the joint resolution of the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, which met respectively in the year 1867, at the city of Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio, and at Rochester, in the State of New York, "to investigate all questions of property, and vested rights as they may stand related to the matter of reunion," beg leave to submit the following report:

We have had submitted to us under the terms of this resolution, certain documents, of which an abstract is found in an appendix to this report.

It is understood that the opinions herein expressed are based upon these papers.

They admit of a classification into these classes:

I. The instrumentalities by which the General Assembly holds and controls property. And herein
  (1.) The Trustees of the Presbyterian House.
  (2.) The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.
  (3.) The Board of Education (N. S.).
  (4.) The Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions.
  (5.) The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions.
  (6.) The Board of Education (O. S.).
II. Conveyances, devises, or gifts to, and grants to and from one or more of these bodies.
III. Charters of churches.
IV. Devises and bequests not included in the second class.

I.

The first five of these instrumentalities, or corporations, are connected with the "New School" General Assembly, viz.: The Trustees of the Presbyterian House, The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, The Board of Education, The Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions. One of them became a corporation under the laws of Pennsylvania, and the other four under the legislation of New York. Their acts of incorporation bear a close resemblance in language, and constitute one scheme or design. The theory on which all are based is that the property interests of the General Assembly, instead of being vested directly in that body, are held in trust by corporations, for it. The Trustees of these corporations are elected by the General Assembly, or in such manner as it may appoint; they are liable to displacement at its will; they manage their funds under its control or direction. The title to all property given to the Assembly for the purposes embraced in the act of incorporation vests in the particular corporation having the function to perform which the donation or bequest was intended to aid.

In other words, each corporation is, as it were, the machinery whereby the General Assembly carries forward the great interests of Church Erection, Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, etc., etc. They are but little more than committees of the Assembly, having impressed upon them the capacity of succession, and the power to take, hold, and dispose of land and other property. The questions which may arise are not different from those which would have been presented in case the General Assembly were itself the corporation holding property, and the property rights to be investigated had been acquired by its own act, or by gift, devise, or bequest. To be more specific:

(1.) *The Trustees of the Presbyterian House.* This body originated under the report of the "Committee on the Polity of the Church" in 1854, (Minutes of 1854, pp. 502–3) which recommended that, if the General Assembly should appoint a Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Publication House, it should be incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania. The General Assembly appointed such a Board, and the act of incorporation was obtained accordingly. The principal object of the charter seems to have been to permit land to be owned by the said Trustees for the business of the societies and churches connected with the Assembly. The Trustees are also authorized to hold any property in trust for the Assembly committed to them, or to the Assembly for them, by donations, bequests, or otherwise. This clause was inserted on the recommendation of the "Committee on Church Polity." The Trustees are elected by the Assembly, which has power to increase their number, while their management of the funds committed to their care is subject to the direction of the Assembly. Pamphlet Laws of Pennsylvania, April 21, 1855.

(2.) *The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.* It was a part of the plan of the "Committee on the Polity of the Church" of 1854, that a body chosen by the Assembly as the "Trustees of the Church Erection Fund" should be incorporated under the laws of New York. An act was obtained accordingly. New York Session Laws, March 31, 1855. The Trustees having been designated for that purpose, in May, 1854, were constituted a body corporate and politic, for the purpose of aiding "feeble congregations, in connection with the said General Assembly, in erecting houses of worship," under certain conditions. The Trustees are to remain in office, and to be displaced at the will of the Assembly, and others to be appointed in their places. It is further provided that the "Church Erection Fund" is to be held and administered in conformity with the plan of the General Assembly.

(3.) *The Board of Education.* In 1856 the Assembly established "a Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry," whose members were to be re-elected from time to time by the Assembly.

In 1858 an act of incorporation was obtained from the Legislature of New York, constituting this Committee a corporation to superintend the whole cause of Education, as the Assembly might from time to time direct. It was also empowered to take and to manage the property which might be given or devised to it, or to the General Assembly for educational purposes, and its members are subject to displacement and appointment at the pleasure of the Assembly. Session Laws of 1858, April 17.

(4.) The next of these corporations is *The Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions.*

This was incorporated by the Legislature of New York in 1862. It was constituted a body politic to assist in sustaining the preaching of the Gospel in feeble churches and congregations in connection with the Presbyterian Church in the United States, and generally to superintend the whole cause of Home Missions in behalf of the said Church, as the General Assembly may from time to time direct. It was also to receive and manage any property which might be entrusted to the Church or the Committee for Home Missionary purposes.

The Trustees hold under the same control of the Assembly as has already been alluded to in the cases before described.

(5.) *The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions:*

The last of these corporations connected with the New School General Assembly, was chartered by the Legislature of New York. Session Laws of New York, Ch. 493, 1865.

Persons designated by the General Assembly were made a body corporate to superintend the whole cause of Foreign Missions in language nearly identical with that employed in chapter 340 of the Laws of 1862, concerning Home Missions.

(6.) *Board of Education. (O. S.)* The single Board to which our attention has been called, connected with that branch of the Church usually styled the "Old School," is the Board of Education, chartered in 1841 in Pennsylvania, with an amendment in 1852. There had been a Board of Education, not incorporated. The want of incorporation being attended with practical inconvenience, Trustees of the Board of Education were incorporated, numbering nine. They are elected by "the Board of Education in such a manner that one-third go out of office every year." Their management of the trust funds is subject to the direction of the Board of Education. By the amendment to the charter, the Trustees are entitled to receive and hold property devised, bequeathed or given to them "for the purpose of aiding schools, academies and colleges, or the cause of education generally."

Under this last broad power, we have not been informed whether any such devises, gifts or bequests have been made.

This corporation, for like reasons as those which have been already stated, is simply the instrument of the General Assembly, and the considerations governing its rights to hold property are the same as those which would be presented if the property were held by the General Assembly itself.

For the sake of simplicity, assuming that the funds in question are held directly by each General Assembly, there are two classes of questions which present themselves for solution: One is, what is the effect of the proposed reunion on such property as the General Assembly holds simply as proprietor; second, what is the effect of such reunion in the case of specific trusts, such as would be likely to be found in devises, bequests, and voluntary conveyances.

The investigation of these two questions will arise also in connection with the other documents presented to us, such as the charters of churches, and devises and bequests to the General Assembly.

We will therefore defer their consideration until the other papers submitted to us have been described in general terms, when these points will be examined.

II.

We now proceed to the mention of the transactions entered into by these corporations. All which have been submitted to us are on the part of the "Presbyterian House." These transactions are of two classes.

The first class consist of conveyances regulating and defining the mode in which the property of the General Assembly is held, and declaring the trusts upon which the conveyance was made to the Trustees. Of this there is a single example. The second class of conveyances are voluntary, apparently either gifts from individuals, or from a number of persons combining their contributions. They are all conveyances upon specific trusts for the use of a congregation or congregations maintaining an ecclesiastical connection with the New School General Assembly, and when that connection ceases, the trust either ceases absolutely, or is transferred to some other congregation having that ecclesiastical connection.

The instance of the first class referred to is a declaration of trust made by "the Trustees of the Presbyterian House" of certain lots of land in the city of Philadelphia. It appears that the General Assembly had declared that its will was that the property in question should be held by the "Trustees of the Presbyterian House" in trust, to permit and suffer the Presbyterian Publication Committee to use and occupy the land, subject to the General Assembly, and that the Trustees should execute a declaration of trust. This was done accordingly.

This property was conveyed to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House by Samuel Smyth, February 2, 1855. As there is no evidence before us of any specific trust in the conveyance from him, it is supposed to have been acquired for a valuable consideration for the use of the New School branch of the Presbyterian Church.

The next conveyance which belongs to the second class of cases is an instrument executed by Samuel Work and wife to "the Trustees of the Presbyterian House" for a nominal consideration. The trust declared in the deed is, that the property shall be held for the use of a particular congregation, which are named as tenants at will so long as they remain in connection with the so-called New School General Assembly, and when they cease to be so connected, then in trust for some other Presbyterian church and congregation as tenants at will which the Trustees shall approve, and which shall be in connection with a Presbytery in union with the General Assembly.

The next conveyance of the same class to "the Trustees of the Presbyterian House" is from M. W. Baldwin and wife for a nominal consideration. The property conveyed is to be held in trust for a particular church (the Tabor Presbyterian church) "so long as it shall continue in connection with that branch of the Presbyterian Church (called the New School) and no longer."

The next conveyance is made by A. Whilldin and others to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House. The funds with which this property was acquired were contributed by Whilldin and others. The conveyance is in trust for a church and congregation in ecclesiastical connection with and under the care of the New School General Assembly, to permit such congregation to hold as tenants at will, while their ecclesiastical connection continues undisturbed, and on their becoming incorporated upon certain conditions, to convey the property to them.

The only additional conveyance to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House is one made on behalf of the widow, children and residuary legatees of Matthias W. Baldwin to carry into effect the design of Mr. Baldwin, which had been frustrated by his death. The Trustees are to permit a particular congregation to occupy the property as tenants at will for the purposes of religious worship, so long as they shall remain in connection with and under the care of the New School General Assembly and no longer. The last four conveyances create what for the sake of convenience and reference may be termed "specific trusts" as distinguished from the case where no particular designation of the uses to which the property is to be devoted is made.

III.

Charters of Churches.—These charters are of two kinds: One includes those which were created before the separation of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, and in which of course no reference is made of adhesion to any particular branch; the other class, chartered since the disruption, specifically names the General Assembly to which the particular church adheres.

The first class is illustrated by a single case submitted to us, that of the First Presbyterian church in the district of Southwark and county of Philadelphia.

This organization was effected in 1820. The congregation associated "for religious purposes," and held property for the support of a pastor or pastors, and other officers, and such pious and charitable purposes, as shall by the said society be established. It is only by its name that we can be made certain that this is a Presbyterian church.

We suppose that this instance involves the question of the status of all the churches connected with either General Assembly where there is no *specific description* of adhesion to any particular branch of the Church.

The second class of charters contain in substance this clause: "The faith and government of the said church shall conform to the faith and government of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; and the said church shall be connected with and deemed to be under the care of that General Assembly which met last," &c., meaning the so-called New School General Assembly. There is a further provision that there shall be no "alteration, change or amendment whatever" in this provision.

Three such charters have been submitted which resemble each other so closely that it will be unnecessary to consider them separately. They are described in the Appendix.

IV.

Devises.—The will of Mary Cornell is submitted. The testatrix provides that the proceeds of her residuary estate shall be devoted to the purchase of land to be forever held and used by a church and congregation "which shall be in connection with that portion of the Presbyterian Church now designated in common parlance as the New School." In case that connection ceases, the testatrix directs a forfeiture of the interest previously devised, and directs that the title shall vest in "The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church," &c., who are authorized in that case, to take all necessary measures to recover the land in trust for a congregation connected with that portion of the Presbyterian Church.

By reason of these various documents, questions are raised as to the relation of the churches to each General Assembly, both where there is no specific provision as to adhesion to any particular branch of the Church, as well as where such a provision is made.

It will be noticed that the documents recited present those forms of ownership:

First.—Property owned by corporations which are instruments of the General Assemblies as organs of the Church.

Second.—Property owned by those corporations with a specific trust in favor of one branch of the Church exclusively.

Third.—Funds held by particular churches under their charters, which churches are in fact attached exclusively to one or the other General Assembly, without any express charter direction.

Fourth.—Funds held by particular churches whose charters require specific adhesion to a particular branch.

Fifth.—Devises or conveyances to particular churches, with specific provisions by the devisor or grantor, as to that branch of the Church general to which the particular church shall belong.

For the general purposes of this report, we may condense these questions into two.

First.—What is the effect of reunion upon property held either by the General Assembly through its corporate machinery or by a particular church where no specific directions or trusts exist?

Second.—What is the effect of the proposed reunion where specific directions are given as to the particular branch of the Church to whose use the funds are to be applied?

When these questions are disposed of our duty is performed.

The only objection which can apparently be raised under the first inquiry is, that the funds in question are held under the so-called "law of charitable trusts," and that the proposed reunion is a departure from the trust which a court of equity will not sanction.

Before dealing directly with this question, there are some preliminary suggestions which may be made.

These bodies were once united; they were disrupted; they propose to reunite. They are one in faith and form of government. We cannot be expected to examine this question on the supposition that there are any fundamental differences between the two bodies either in doctrine or church government. No such facts are submitted to us. We have but the simple question, Is there any legal obstacle to the reunion of two bodies on the same confession of faith and under the same form of government to which they both originally adhered?

The question really is: Can the churches through their respective organs, the General Assemblies, form such a union as to merge the two Assemblies into one? If not, there are some serious inconveniences that would follow. Had there been no General Assemblies or Synods, churches divided from Presbyteries through some temporary alienation could scarcely return to their former relations. Had there been no General Assemblies, Synods torn asunder by local divisions could not meet together. Schism instead of harmony becomes the law of the Church. Then the law of the State requires that strength should be wasted instead of husbanded; that weakness should be chronic, and wounds forever unhealed. Then the Church must forever be divided into hostile camps, flaunting banners of defiance in each other's faces, instead of marching with united step to triumph.

We hold, on the other hand, that the presumption is, that the two bodies *ought* to unite, unless there is some clearly proved obstacle, on account of fundamental differences in faith or form of government, or incompatibility of united action.

This appears to us to be the law imposed by the Founder of the Church upon his followers, and therefore the law of the Church itself.

The law of the State seeks to administer such a trust as this upon the presumed intention of the donor of the trust funds. He must be supposed to intend to have the funds appropriated in accordance with the law of the Church; and the law of the Church must be presumed to be in accordance with the law of its Founder.

It needs no argument from us, to establish that the precepts and spirit of Christianity require brethren to walk together who are agreed.

The history of the Presbyterian Church shows that it accords with these views, and that such is the law which its members actually recognize. There have, undoubtedly, been from time to time, unfortunate, and perhaps, in some instances, unnecessary divisions. Good men have always deplored them, and when the temporary obstacle has been removed, reunion has come. Force only kept the two bodies apart—the law of their nature has been union and reunion. Called, as we have been recently. to examine the history of these church movements, we have been continually reminded of the course of a full stream, which, meeting with an immovable obstacle, divides to pass around it, only to reunite its forces at the very point where the obstacle ends. This strong tendency in the Church to be in full accord with the law of its Founder, was never so marked as to-day, when the causes of dissension and division are reduced and removed. Though it may have been repressed, its strength is shown by the elasticity of its rebound when the pressure is removed.

These general considerations are not without importance, since this question must be determined by the law of the Church.

The property of the General Assembly must have been given to it in view of this law. It is not departing from the use which a donor impressed upon the funds bestowed, if it unites with other churches of the same faith and government, and thus increases its efficiency and power over the minds of the community. The property of any particular church must be presumed to have been given in accordance with the law of the individual church which leads to union with other churches of the same faith, and with the wider law leading the body of associated churches to unite with other churches of the same character.

This is no more than saying that every institution of man is subject to the law of development or growth, and that one who bestows funds upon it must be supposed to intend to follow such law of development.

These views are sustained by the highest legal authority of the State of Pennsylvania, in which many of these questions would arise if they should ever be presented to any court. They are believed to be in accord with the approved authorities upon this branch of the law.

The case to which we refer is McGinnis *vs.* Watson, 41 Pennsylvania (5 Wright), p. 7. This case bears so closely upon the topics now under discussion, that it will be well to state the facts at some length.

A congregation in Venango township, of that State, consisted of members of the Associate Church, and were in ecclesiastical connection with the "Associate (Presbyterian) Synod of North America." In that character, they having become incorporated, acquired land "for the use and behoof of the congregation." The Associate Synod, by a vote of a large majority of the Presbyteries, united with another Presbyterian body known as the "Associate Reformed Church." The Presbytery to which the congregation in question belonged, approved of the union. The session of the church approved of it at a regular meeting. A minority of the congregation refused to go into the union, and connected themselves with a protesting Presbytery and Synod.

A bill in equity was presented in behalf of the minority against the majority of the congregation, to regain possession and control of the church property, on the ground that the grant of it was to a congregation professing the doctrines and adhering to the government of the Associate Church according to its original standards; and that the union is such a departure from these, that the dissenting members cannot be compelled to follow.

The case, therefore, clearly presents the point whether a portion of any individual church can resist the legislative act of the general body to which it belongs, when such act constitutes no material departure from the doctrines and form of government maintained by the denomination to which the particular church adheres.

The court held that the legislative act of union was valid, and enforced its position by great wealth of illustration and strong argumentation. Its reasoning, in general outline, is that the court must regard the law of the Church; that this law is not to be ascertained simply by regarding the particular church, but that recourse must be had to the general law of the denomination to which the members of any particular church must be presumed to have assented.

That part of the congregation which acts in harmony with its own law thus broadly interpreted, must be approved and sustained by the state law. All spiritual growth involves some change or development. Every denomination of Christians admit that others must change in their progress towards union, though it regard its own system as too perfect to undergo change. These propositions are then enforced by instances derived from the history of the Church through many centuries.

Judging, as is thus seen to be necessary, the acts of those persons by the laws which were accepted among themselves, the authority of the Church to legislate upon its doctrines, forms, and practice, is clearly evinced. Changes and progress appear historically to be a recognized part of their ecclesiastical life. It is shown, then, how though there has been much division among Presbyterians, there has been a strong tendency towards union, as shown in the union of Burghers and Anti-Burghers, Covenanters and Seceders, of the Synods of New York and Philadelphia, of the Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia and the Seceders. To these might now be added, union in the Australian Colonies; union in Canada; union in New Zealand; union in Queensland; union in South Australia; union in New South Wales. Here we seem to have found the law of the Presbyterian Church; the waiving of non-essentials to secure united action on fundamental principles. There is permitted to be diversity of sentiment where unsoundness in faith, according to the recognized standards, does not exist, while there is an agreement to abstain from agitating the questions which occasioned separation, or led to distinct organizations.

These principles will not lose their application, though the basis of union between the two branches of the Church may relax the former strictness on minor points; for there may have been good reasons for this relaxation, and of that the Presbyteries, Synods and General Assemblies are the constitutional judges. Such proceedings cannot be condemned as unlawful without deciding that there can be no unions of the Church without a forfeiture of civil rights, and that the law well-nigh compels the perpetuation of divisions.

This enlightened judgment seems to us to require that we should answer the inquiry whether a church forfeits its property by adopting the plan of reunion in the negative. On the same ground, there can be no forfeiture of the property which either General Assembly holds as proprietor, either directly, or by means of the corporations described in the outset of this report.

It may perhaps be suggested that the corporations referred to would no longer be under the control of the particular Assembly pointed out in the act of incorporation, when the two Assemblies became merged into one. The answer is, that the legislature must be presumed to be cognizant of that law of the Church which permits union, and therefore that it has employed words in granting these charters which are to have the liberal and comprehensive interpretation that the principles already laid down require.

The objection will probably be made, in another form. that there is a change of identity by reason of the union. It may be said that neither of the two bodies is the same as before, but that there is a composite body partaking of the nature of both, but in no proper sense identical with either. It will then be argued that a loss of identity involves a forfeiture of property, because the trust reposed by the donors of funds can no longer be administered by the organ which they selected.

This objection is answered in the case already noticed. Though there may be no formal literal identity, yet each body substantially exists in the new organization. What we must regard is the identity of social life, which admits of a mutual giving and reception of moral and mental influences, and a corresponding social growth. Social institutions must grow with society, adapt themselves to its intelligence and wants, to times and circumstances. They thus change and remain the same; when they lose this power of adaptation, they wither and decay, pp. 27, 28. 29.

We do not express any opinion upon the effect of a change by either body in one or more of its fundamental principles of faith. No opinion of any value could be given on such a supposition, without an exact statement of the proposed change. We have assumed that the reunion is to take place upon the doctrines acknowledged by both parties before the disruption.

These views seem to be sustained by decisions in the cases of Gibson *v.* Armstrong, 7 B. Monroe, 481; Den *v.* Pilling, 4 Zabriskie, 653; 2 Richardson's Equity, 215; Attorney-general *v.* Gould, 2 Law Reporter, 495; Attorney-general *v.* Pearson, 3 Merivale, 400.

Second.—It only remains to consider the effect of the proposed reunion where specific obligations are imposed upon the ownership of the property.

It is material to inquire as to the intent of the grantor of the fund. There is no pretence that the grantors or donors, all of whom belong to the so-called New School Church, suppose that there is any material difference in respect to faith, or form of government between the two branches. What evidence there is, is all the other way.

Thus, the charters which mark out with the greatest precision their separate relation to the New School assert, that "the faith and government of the said church shall conform to the faith and government of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and the said church shall be connected with and deemed to be under the care of that branch of the Church"—known as the New School. The plain intention is to require the faith and government of the Presbyterian Church in general, but the care and connection of a particular branch of it. It seems to us, that the meaning of all these special clauses is, to provide for a particular relation and connection so long as the New School branch maintains its separate existence, but there is no evidence of intention to perpetuate separation, alienation, and division. Every donor must be presumed to have made his gift with a full knowledge of the law of the particular church as modified by the legislation of the constituted bodies, Presbyteries, Synods, and Assemblies, to which the church belongs. This law leads to reunion, as we have before seen. The gift must then have been made with the probability of union foreseen. The donor's intention fully expanded really is this: "While the New School and Old School remain separate, my property must be devoted to the promotion of the interests of the New School. I am aware of the legislative power of the New School by its assemblies to coalesce and unite with the Old School. I am content to have that power exercised."

What is this but saying that a person intends that which is necessarily implied as well as that which is expressed?

We are therefore of opinion that there is substantially no difference between the two questions which, for the sake of examination, have been considered separately, and that the answer of the one is the solution of the other.

These views embrace in principle the special cases of gifts and conveyances to the "Presbyterian House," particular clauses in charters, and devises. as far as laid before us.

After this report was written, some deeds of trust were exhibited to us, which respected the title to property connected with the Princeton Theological Seminary. Some of these instruments we unhesitatingly consider to be governed by the principles that we have recognized. Others have special clauses entering into considerable detail, the bearing of which we have not had an opportunity to consider. We do not intend to express any doubt upon these clauses, but simply give no opinion. We concede that a donor *might* cumber his gift to one of these branches of the Church with such limitations, conditions, or provisos, as to make it questionable whether reunion would not be a ground of forfeiture. Perhaps he might provide that his gift to one branch should be void in case of reunion, though it would admit of consideration whether a trust for the mere perpetuation of division and separation would accord with sound views of public policy.

However this may be, we desire to be understood as not expressing any opinion upon any special trusts not embraced within the instances set forth in the former part of this report. Should our opinion hereafter be desired upon the Princeton trusts, or others of a special nature, we shall be pleased to give it.

On the whole, we are of opinion that there are no obstacles to reunion growing out of the relations of that subject to property so far as those relations have been brought to our notice, and so report to your honorable body.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Daniel Haines.
Theodore W. Dwight.

REPORT.

The undersigned Committee, appointed on behalf of the Old School General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, to investigate the questions of property and vested rights, which may arise from a reunion with the New School Presbyterian body, have partially discharged the duty assigned to them. They met in conference the Hon. Daniel Haines, of New Jersey, and the Hon. Theodore W. Dwight, of New York, the Committee appointed on behalf of the New School General Assembly, and united with them in the investigation of these questions. The latter gentlemen have embodied their views in a report which has been submitted for our concurrence. It evinces much research and discrimination, and will be read with interest by those who appreciate the importance of the subject. In some of the opinions there expressed we are unable to concur. To others we give our entire assent.

1. In respect to property heretofore owned or controlled by the *New School* General Assembly, or any of the instrumentalities or churches under its care, the investigations of Messrs. Haines and Dwight have been very thorough, and we see no reason to question the soundness of their conclusion, that this property will not be affected by the proposed reunion.

2. We agree with them also in the opinion that church property which was held *before* the division in 1838, will not be affected in its legal relations if the two branches of the Church should unite. That property will stand where it would have stood if the division had not taken place.

3. We agree with them also in holding that property acquired since the division by either branch of the Church, by deed or will, by gift or purchase, which has not been clothed with a special trust, placing it under the exclusive control of one branch, as distinguished from the other, will not be affected if the two branches should now unite.

4. Where such trusts do exist each case must be decided on its own special circumstances. The effect upon the property of a union with any other body will depend on the nature of the conditions imposed by the grantor or donor, or prescribed in acts of incorporation. The condition of much of the property connected with the Theological Seminary at Princeton will form a good illustration of this point. The deeds for this property were laid before us and were fully investigated. Its importance to the Old School body is such that we do not feel justified in withholding our opinions respecting it.

On the 5th of May, 1843, James Lenox, Esq., conveyed to the Trustees of the Seminary the ground now occupied by the library and the house of one of its professors. He accompanied the grant with this condition, which for convenience we have divided into two sections: (1.) " Provided, always, nevertheless, and upon this condition, that if at any time or times hereafter, the said parties of the second part [that is, the Trustees of the Seminary] shall pass from under the supervision and control of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, *now commonly known and distinguished as the Old School General Assembly, and its successors*, or (2,) if at any time or times hereafter, the leading doctrines declared in the confession of faith and catechisms of the Presbyterian Church, such as the doctrine of universal and total depravity, the doctrine of election, the doctrine of the atonement, the doctrine of the imputation of Adam's sin to all his posterity, and of the imputation of Christ's righteousness to all his people for their justification, the doctrine of human inability, and the doctrine of the necessity of the influences of the Holy Spirit in the regeneration, conversion and sanctification of sinners, as these doctrines are now understood and explained *by the aforesaid Old School General Assembly*, shall cease to be taught and inculcated in the said Seminary, then, and in either such case, the grant and conveyance hereby made shall cease and become null and void, and the said premises shall thereupon revert to the said party of the first part, his heirs, or assigns, as in his first and former estate."

The second branch of this condition would probably not be violated in the eye of the law until the doctrines there specified shall cease to be taught in the Seminary. On some of these doctrines it is in vain to deny that the two branches of the Church are wide apart; and while we agree with our brethren that we cannot, as lawyers, undertake to examine and pronounce upon the effect of these differences of opinion, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact so well known to theologians on both sides, that such differences do exist. Nor can we hesitate to point attention to the peril which may ensue to this property and to other property similarly situated, if in consequence of the terms of a union with any other body, the doctrines specified in this deed, as understood and explained by the aforesaid *Old School* General Assembly, may cease to be taught in the institutions thus endowed.

There is less difficulty in determining the results which must flow from violating the first branch of the condition imposed by Mr. Lenox, viz.: if the Trustees of the Seminary shall pass from under the supervision and control of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, now commonly known and distinguished as the Old School General Assembly, and its successors. In that event the property is to revert to himself and his heirs. The Trustees are, by the express terms of the deed, to be under the supervision and control of the Old School General Assembly as *distinguished* from any other; in other words, from the New School General Assembly. We are of opinion that if these Trustees should pass from the supervision and control of the former Assembly, as distinguished from the latter, or if they should be controlled and supervised by an Assembly known by another name, or constituted differently from the Assembly thus specially described by Mr. Lenox, the valuable property conveyed by his deed will be placed in jeopardy.

On the 25th of April, 1862, Robert L. and Alexander Stuart conveyed to the Trustees of this Seminary $50,000 in bonds of the Federal Government, and inserted in their deed the same condition in substance which has been quoted from that of Mr. Lenox, except that in the event of a breach of the condition the money is to become the property of the American Bible Society. They had previously presented to the Trustees of the Seminary the library of the late Dr. Addison Alexander on nearly the same terms, except that on the violation of that trust the library is to become the property of the Trustees of the College of New Jersey. The views which we have expressed, respecting the gift of Mr. Lenox, will apply to the gifts of the brothers Stuart.

This is as far as we have proceeded in our investigations. There may be property connected with the other institutions of the Church, or belonging to individual church corporations, in the grant of which other special trusts were imposed. We have not been supplied with the materials for forming a judgment respecting them. In due time, if they are laid before us, we are willing to give them our attention.

HENRY W. GREEN, Trenton, N. J.
May 5th, 1868. WILLIAM A. PORTER, Philadelphia.

APPENDIX.

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES, ON VESTED RIGHTS, ETC.

Approved 21st April, 1865.

1. The charter of "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House," granted on the recommendation of "The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States," which held its sessions in the First Presbyterian church, on Washington Square, in the city of Philadelphia, in May, 1854.

The charter provides:

(1.) That the Trustees therein named shall hold their office till the first day of June, 1865, and until their successors are duly qualified to take their places, who shall be chosen by *the said Assembly* and their successors.

(2.) The said Trustees are authorized "to purchase, receive, take, and hold real and personal estate," and all kinds of property and estate which may be devised, or bequeathed. or given to them, or to the *said Assembly* for them, and the same "to sell, alien, demise, and convey."

(3.) They are to be subject to the direction of said Assembly, and to have also power to manage all funds, property, and effects committed to their care by gift, purchase, bequest, or otherwise, and to execute any trusts confided to them by the said General Assembly or their successors, in such manner as shall be deemed most advantageous, and not contrary to law or the intention of the donor or testator.

2. *Declaration of Trust* by the Trustees of the Presbyterian House to "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," declaring that under the direction of the said Assembly they hold certain premises, viz.: Nos. 1334 and 1336 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, in trust for "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," appointed by the said Assembly, dated April 1, 1864.

Southwark church.

3. *Deed from Samuel North and wife* to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, dated December 7, 1863, conveying a lot of ground and church edifice thereon, lying on south side of German street, between 2d and 3d streets, Philadelphia. *In trust* for the First Presbyterian church and congregation of Southwark, in county of Philadelphia, *so long* as said church and congregation shall continue in connection with a Presbytery in union with the General Assembly which met in the city of Philadelphia, in May, 1863, and no longer; with power reserved to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House to re-enter in case of failure to comply with the conditions.

Tabor Pr. church.

4. *Deed from Matthias W. Baldwin* and wife to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, dated Dec. 5, 1864, conveying the church edifice and lot of ground on southwest corner of Christian and 18th streets, Philadelphia. *In trust* for the Tabor Presbyterian church, so long as the said church shall continue in connection with that branch of the Presbyterian Church in U. S. A., the General Assembly of which last convened in Dayton, Ohio, and *no longer*.

5. *Deed from Alexander Whilldin and wife*, by their attorneys in fact, to "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House," dated Oct. 22, 1866, conveying a lot of ground and stone chapel on northeast corner of Broad and Oxford

streets, in the 20th ward of Philadelphia, which had been purchased with the contributions of the said Alexander Whilldin and others, for the purpose of erecting thereon a church edifice for the religious uses and purposes of a church and congregation in ecclesiastical connection with, and under the care of that General Assembly which met in the First Presbyterian church, in Philadelphia, in May 1863. *In trust* for a church and congregation in that connection, with power of re-entry, &c.

6. *Deed from Clayton and Townsend*, executors of Matthias W. Baldwin, to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, dated November 1, 1866, conveying a lot and stone chapel in the 23d ward of Philadelphia. *In trust* for the Herman Presbyterian church, so long as they shall remain in ecclesiastical connection with, and under the care of that General Assembly which assembled in the First Presbyterian church, in Philadelphia, in May, 1863.

7. *Will of Mary Cornell*, dated 13th of June, 1849, proved 28th of March, 1861, devises all the residue of her estate, real and personal, to her executors, *in trust*, to convert it into money, and to apply the same to the purchase of a lot or lots, and the erection of a suitable house for public worship; "the said house and lot to be forever held and used by a church and congregation which shall be in connection with that portion of the Presbyterian Church now designated in common parlance as the New School."

Wharton st. church.

Under this will a lot was purchased at corner of 9th and Wharton streets, Philadelphia, and a deed, conveying the same in fee to the corporation, subject to trusts, provisions, and limitations of the will.

See deed when it shall be furnished.

8. *Charter and By-Laws of "The Oxford Presbyterian church*, of the city of Philadelphia," organized January, 1857, enrolled March 11, 1857.

Oxford Pr. church.

Art. II. provides that the faith and government of the said church shall conform to the faith and government of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; "and the said church shall be connected with and deemed to be under the care of that General Assembly which assembled in the First Presbyterian church, in the city of Philadelphia, in the month of May, A. D., 1863."

9. *Charter of the Southwestern Presbyterian church*, in the city of Philadelphia, 1865.

Southwestern Pr. church.

Art. II. The faith and government of the said church shall conform to the faith and government of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A.: "and the said church shall be connected with, and deemed to be under the care of that General Assembly which assembled in the Lafayette avenue Presbyterian church, in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., on 18th of May, 1865; and the real estate now owned, or which hereafter may be owned, by this corporation, shall be forever held and used by a church and congregation which shall be connected with, and under the care of the said General Assembly."

10. *Declaration of trust* by Josiah Gray and John McFale, dated 1859, acknowledged 18th October, 1859, by which they declared that they held a certain lot of ground at northeast corner of 20th and Fitzwater streets, Philadelphia, *in trust* only for the use and benefit of the Southwestern Presbyterian church and congregation, in connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in U. S. A., commonly called the Old School Presbyterian Church.

NOTE.—This church is said to have passed into the connection of the New School Assembly, with the consent of the congregation and of the Old School Presbytery, and that the charter before-mentioned was then obtained.

11. *Charter of "The Wharton street Presbyterian church*, in the city of Philadelphia."

Art. II. is in language similar to that of the Southwestern Presbyterian church, and provides for the same ecclesiastical connection.

12. *Charter of the First Presbyterian church*, in the district of Southwark, and county of Philadelphia, organized in 1820.

13. *Charter of "The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America."

Sec. 1. Whose duty it shall be to superintend the whole cause of Foreign Missions of the said General Assembly (that which met at Dayton, Ohio, in May, 1864), and as the said General Assembly may from time to time direct. Also to receive, take charge of, and disburse any property or funds which may be intrusted to the said Assembly or said Permanent Committee, for missionary purposes.

Sec. 2. The successors of the Trustees to be elected by the said General Assembly in such time and manner as the said Assembly may direct or appoint. Passed by the Legislature of N. Y., April 17, 1865.

14. *Charter of "The Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions."*

(Designated for the purpose by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which met at Syracuse, N. Y., in May, 1861.)

Whose duty it is to assist in sustaining feeble churches, &c., as the General Assembly may from time to time direct.

The successors of the Trustees to be elected at such time. and in such manner, as the said General Assembly shall direct and appoint.

15. *Charter of "The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America." New York, 31st of March, 1855.

(Designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which met in Philadelphia, in May, 1854.)

For the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the said General Assembly.

Successors to be appointed at such time, and in such manner, as the said Assembly shall direct.

16. *Education Manual* containing the charter of "*The Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A." Passed in New York, April 17, 1858.

(The Trustees were designated by the General Assembly which met at Cleveland, Ohio, in May, 1857.)

Their duty is, to superintend the whole cause of education in behalf of the said General Assembly, and as it may direct.

The Trustees to be displaced and succeeded by others to be elected in such time and manner as the said Assembly shall direct.

17. *Charter of "The Trustees of the Board of Education* of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America." O. S.

Successors to be elected by the Board of Education at such times, and in such manner, as shall be provided by the said General Assembly. Passed 18th Feb., 1841.

18. *By-Laws of the Presbyterian Board of Education*, with renewed charter of 13th Feb., 1847.

19. *Reports of Joint Committee* of the two General Assemblies of 1866, and of the Special Committee of the O. S. Assembly of 1867.

20. *Minutes of the General Assembly* (N. S.) of 1859.

21. *Report of Committee on Legal Rights*, &c., of General Assembly (N. S.), 1854.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	79	1	5	66	330	229	8,354	1308	143	144	7,052	$408 81	$7,735	$2,931	$256	$692	$60	$86,482	$8,996	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	17	...	...	17	93	42	2,343	494	50	51	2,177	80 35	557	466	29	82	21	26,845	1,340	Edwin A. Bulkley.
2. Troy	1820	...	25	1	1	18	67	47	2,217	527	26	13	1,328	99 86	2,444	922	18	288	17	23,256	1,256	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
3. Albany	1791	...	15	...	1	11	56	76	1,585	119	18	40	1,872	98 52	3,718	667	52	226	10	17,103	3,759	Stephen Bush.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	1	6	31	20	828	112	11	10	528	49 08	45	401	35	...	...	9,728	803	Charles T. Berry.
5. Catskill	1851	...	16	...	2	14	83	44	1,381	56	38	27	1,147	81 00	971	475	122	96	12	9,550	1,838	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	79	4	11	70	280	342	7,302	172	92	155	6,563	448 67	8,353	3,663	478	1309	265	102,582	6,857	William E. Knox, D. D.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	9	...	...	8	48	22	840	...	5	33	558	46 10	331	305	11	111	20	4,737	806	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	21	...	4	19	47	30	1,749	73	20	20	1,594	125 00	503	709	242	70	115	22,329	2,570	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	7	...	...	9	26	20	824	...	14	19	495	31 00	403	334	34	139	49	4,870	848	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Utica	1842	...	42	4	7	34	159	270	3,889	99	53	83	3,916	246 57	7,116	2,315	191	989	81	70,646	2,633	Samuel W. Braee.
III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	74	15	17	67	374	317	9,555	46	204	104	5,420	508 70	7,429	5,928	5940	840	111	60,492	18,421	[Vacant.]
1. Onondaga	1810	...	13	1	1	21	64	61	2,991	...	32	32	610	126 14	2,891	2,033	288	358	94	9,950	12,253	John S. Bacon.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	32	14	14	20	112	95	2,917	...	66	41	2,141	177 96	2,976	2,028	434	220	13	26,218	3,885	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	9	...	2	15	181	98	1,827	29	97	16	1,558	81 60	171	811	5025	26	4	14,898	696	Huntington Lyman.
4. Tioga	1829	...	20	...	...	11	17	63	1,820	17	9	15	1,111	123 00	1,391	1,056	193	236	...	9,426	1,587	Solon Cobb.
IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	100	2	21	89	440	307	9,702	475	200	155	8,611	574 68	5,351	3,494	757	671	440	144,535	5,258	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	36	1	6	18	90	95	2,752	252	46	45	2,545	162 18	1,387	989	195	143	157	28,122	1,316	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	..	11	...	5	18	46	44	1,554	72	17	29	1,447	95 82	506	237	118	61	108	26,019	850	William A. Niles.
3. Chemung	1836	...	18	...	...	16	32	69	1,801	...	10	32	1,426	108 60	1,206	980	250	339	...	56,900	485	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	9	...	5	7	50	23	1,019	39	27	10	636	60 06	1,091	612	101	63	108	9,555	1,287	Theodore F. White.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	10	...	1	13	42	7	632	34	26	8	554	36 00	65	39	4	12	12	6,376	60	James F. Calkins.
6. Lyons	1856	...	16	1	4	17	180	69	1,944	78	74	31	2,003	112 02	1,096	637	89	53	55	17,563	1,260	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA	1853	3	37	1	3	39	146	99	3,521	268	69	52	3,027	194 86	788	1,017	205	127	123	24,292	2,012	Samuel N. Robinson.
1. Otsego	1820	...	15	...	2	17	60	47	1,440	192	37	26	1,197	99 00	292	607	94	58	70	12,534	758	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	11	...	...	11	17	18	1,167	3	7	6	800	37 00	242	245	42	23	18	6,076	573	William H. Sautelle.
3. Delaware	1831	...	11	1	1	11	69	34	914	73	25	20	1,030	58 86	254	165	69	46	35	5,682	741	Leonard E. Richards.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.									STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.		
VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE......	1821	6	138	7	15	105	799	566	14,149	615	356	285	15,097	$875 53	$9,727	$8,901	$5664	$1224	$710	$132,284	$17,273	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	48	2	10	27	146	188	3,827	149	49	72	4,575	275 00	2,490	3,052	135	228	210	33,365	4,091	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	20	1	3	13	68	40	1,671	34	36	39	1,285	98 94	798	586	66	106	51	13,455	1,141	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester..................	1819	...	26	4	...	17	370	151	3,621	210	173	82	3,449	199 32	4,055	3,264	5305	747	359	25,980	9,142	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee....................	1819	..	14	...	2	15	43	54	1,396	83	22	33	1,532	86 75	992	775	106	42	44	13,237	834	Charles F. Mussey.
5. Niagara....................	1823	...	17	...	...	17	102	66	2,407	86	54	26	2,665	143 76	998	917	25	89	30	28,690	1,552	Edward P. Marvin.
6. Genesee Valley	1828	...	13	...	...	16	70	67	1,227	53	22	33	1,591	71 76	394	307	27	12	16	17,557	513	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J....	1788	9	297	47	78	167	1873	1754	33,886	2836	531	980	37,777	1946 76	38,805	41,800	9216	2089	3557	641,397	138,010	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson....................	1797	...	18	2	3	13	197	77	1,889	...	108	44	1,325	101 78	378	372	254	44	51	20,866	802	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River...............	1819	...	23	2	...	16	92	51	1,991	188	38	34	1,423	140 50	382	529	42	25	34	19,838	3,444	Francis B. Wheeler.
3. Long Island.	1791	...	9	...	...	6	7	10	668	1	3	16	691	40 32	173	213	18	25	23	10,940	306	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third.......	1831	...	62	19	27	21	389	321	7,366	1147	79	199	10,211	121 32	6,402	8,124	1428	190	1073	145,749	33,692	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth......	1845	...	48	15	24	15	347	371	4,816	791	86	117	5,785	265 38	14,316	17,427	3915	948	754	118,487	48,167	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn..	1838	...	30	2	4	10	200	446	3,999	170	31	141	4,304	218 52	8,208	4,853	1154	215	604	123,350	13,331	Theodore S. Brown.
7. Newark....................	1824	...	55	5	15	33	331	351	8,010	227	45	281	8,304	466 20	6,186	7,681	1251	369	924	121,409	34,002	J. Allen Maxwell.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	2	2	20	159	48	2,291	59	70	98	2,694	103 71	1,231	1,076	1088	227	66	24,933	1,755	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose..................	1832	...	34	...	3	33	118	79	2,796	253	68	50	3,031	189 00	1,529	1,525	66	46	28	55,825	2,511	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA..	1838	5	123	7	24	91	1173	899	17,239	559	300	669	19,185	1086 04	12,676	11,379	2353	2122	2160	268,150	47,048	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington.........	1833	...	16	...	4	18	107	94	1,935	...	32	69	2,869	121 04	2,017	513	150	283	110	26,719	1,538	William Aikman.
2. Philadelphia, Third...	1832	...	35	1	2	24	284	164	4,850	320	52	182	5,260	293 00	3,814	3,453	609	596	606	69,607	31,759	Beriah B. Hotchkin.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth..	1815	...	50	3	10	34	613	540	7,285	171	176	275	7,571	431 00	2,392	4,748	949	675	571	118,311	6,651	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh...............	1839	...	11	1	3	9	51	51	1,349	15	13	67	1,680	117 00	4,119	1,892	464	429	625	30,311	5,282	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia...	1831	...	11	2	5	9	118	50	1,820	53	27	76	1,805	124 00	304	773	181	139	308	23,202	1,818	George H. Smyth.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN...	1843	3	32	...	6	33	211	185	3,953	22	67	131	3,818	222 68	6,555	2,467	1570	571	651	75,409	9,914	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie...........................	1801	...	15	...	4	14	84	67	1,879	22	36	28	1,742	103 86	773	627	178	91	143	18,634	1,660	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville..................	1812	...	10	...	2	12	92	43	1,122	...	28	63	901	65 82	437	287	92	46	8	6,477	754	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	7	...	...	7	35	75	952	...	3	40	1,175	53 00	5,345	1,553	1300	434	500	50,298	7,500	Peter S. Davies.
X SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	122	5	13	125	708	715	11,030	271	246	296	14,340	637 22	4,915	3,571	948	875	392	141,271	14,611	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit......................	1826	...	20	...	3	20	76	97	1,807	67	34	62	3,700	105 48	1,200	1,057	302	34	118	28,713	5,891	William A. McCorkle.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	...	1	16	88	56	1,502	39	35	45	1,405	82 70	497	607	73	40	18	17,644	617	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall....................	1838	...	11	...	2	10	35	59	1,108	49	14	16	1,153	66 12	446	223	81	92	3	12,338	1,224	Loomis Chandler.
4. Washtenaw...............	1838	...	14	2	3	8	108	57	1,344	45	16	11	1,360	74 94	653	339	109	47	32	12,280	818	Lucius D. Chapin.
5. Kalamazoo.................	1838	...	18	1	...	16	116	78	1,612	46	55	46	2,010	90 90	841	564	108	59	49	16,828	2,359	Job Pierson.

6. Coldwater	1856	...	12	1	1	13	68	98	1,247	20	18	28	1,515	71 70	346	208	55	53	88	18,637	806	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	15	...	...	17	102	135	1,166	...	38	36	1,427	76 08	562	314	138	488	27	18,479	1,616	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	12	...	2	12	53	60	614	1	11	34	944	34 38	185	156	53	32	25	7,792	721	George Ransom.
9. Lansing	1866	...	7	1	1	13	62	75	630	4	25	18	826	34 92	185	103	29	30	32	8,560	559	J. Evarts Weed.
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE.	1825	5	96	4	23	74	297	338	6,716	292	122	185	8,383	414 69	3,961	4,756	1402	772	499	86,309	7,097	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	12	...	...	7	82	32	635	...	36	20	713	28 40	113	292	21	29	10	4,758	220	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	21	2	5	18	74	74	1,491	102	31	44	2,202	92 04	308	582	178	83	97	17,167	1,475	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull	1827	...	13	...	...	16	32	35	1,279	33	10	36	1,356	72 23	249	583	10	3	42	19,778	1,245	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland and Portage	1830	...	41	2	17	22	57	124	2,336	124	20	51	2,732	157 02	1,947	2,605	390	100	182	29,652	2,978	James Shaw, D. D.
5. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	1	11	52	73	975	33	25	34	1,380	65 00	1,344	694	803	557	168	14,954	1,179	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO	1814	4	47	7	10	64	271	139	4,499	90	93	119	5,087	279 93	2,673	3,026	1118	184	241	59,390	8,759	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	4	6	19	68	35	893	25	36	33	1,103	67 27	217	230	74	25	38	11,575	550	Charles C. Hart.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	1	4	22	104	39	1,581	26	32	27	1,813	97 20	881	1,205	783	38	78	20,512	4,710	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	10	1	...	13	39	37	1,187	14	12	21	940	68 46	590	615	107	10	47	17,696	913	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto	1845	...	8	1	...	10	60	28	838	25	13	38	1,231	47 00	985	976	154	111	78	9,607	2,586	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	1829	4	56	5	1	47	281	266	4,112	140	69	155	5,032	221 94	3,131	2,921	530	452	525	55,554	10,110	Joseph Chester.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	29	1	...	16	159	125	1,623	123	27	64	2,222	82 00	2,122	1,702	297	149	354	25,956	6,113	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley	1838	...	6	...	...	11	45	26	894	...	16	39	950	47 00	120	157	26	45	30	312	2,475	Jesse H. Lockhart.
3. Dayton	1838	...	8	...	...	10	20	80	900	17	4	20	1,169	54 00	463	555	137	245	110	23,311	917	Henry Calhoun.
4. Hamilton	1846	...	13	4	...	10	57	35	695	...	22	32	691	38 94	426	507	70	13	31	5,975	605	John Hussey.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA	1826	4	47	3	12	63	759	228	5,008	136	277	182	5,626	275 62	2,469	2,336	770	283	255	81,337	6,973	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	10	1	2	13	345	38	1,446	33	148	65	2,180	66 56	873	1,101	398	88	93	33,403	2,792	Horace C. Hovey.
2. Madison	1825	...	11	1	4	15	129	37	1,145	71	36	35	1,050	62 10	621	389	34	90	18	11,652	601	Edward C. Johnston.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	15	1	4	19	211	111	1,581	...	75	42	1,642	98 90	804	670	242	61	139	31,466	2,599	Philip S. Cleland.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	11	...	2	16	74	42	836	32	18	40	754	48 06	171	176	96	44	5	4,816	981	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH	1851	4	42	...	9	54	358	195	3,293	25	155	99	3,559	181 48	1,056	910	158	167	85	29,701	2,448	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	13	...	6	12	146	62	712	...	72	22	510	41 16	258	296	55	36	17	7,181	25	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	8	...	...	11	37	47	726	18	18	12	840	35 62	281	138	14	...	24	7,235	642	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	12	...	3	21	144	66	1,249	2	51	44	1,445	69 00	393	338	74	80	34	7,475	1,464	Adolphus S. Dudley.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	9	...	...	10	31	20	606	5	14	21	764	35 70	124	138	15	51	10	7,810	317	William J. Essick.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS	1831	4	86	2	2	99	651	486	6,307	240	176	288	8,751	341 49	4,117	2,017	458	753	81	102,694	7,678	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	20	2	1	20	126	176	1,836	42	47	57	2,475	105 00	861	1,167	173	484	...	36,893	2,946	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	16	...	...	20	44	33	1,316	33	12	29	1,524	75 00	770	304	93	6	...	14,925	600	Edwin L. Hurd.
3. Wabash	1833	...	15	...	...	18	54	65	911	25	21	36	1,372	51 84	380	294	64	6	74	11,093	329	Edwin Black.
4. Alton	1836	...	35	...	1	41	427	212	2,244	140	96	166	3,380	109 65	2,106	252	128	257	7	39,783	3,803	Augustus T. Norton, D. D.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA	1843	5	105	2	13	69	462	620	7,221	319	172	242	10,407	393 27	8,448	4,938	978	426	77	157,243	17,407	[Vacant.]
1. Ottawa	1831	...	15	2	...	10	92	75	635	17	34	34	815	49 35	150	159	99	34	22	10,953	817	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox	1836	...	13	...	6	6	13	23	732	61	4	22	879	45 96	320	299	21	...	...	12,711	234	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena and Belvidere.	1842	...	28	...	2	23	128	166	1,750	73	50	57	2,381	94 38	885	539	151	107	36	36,208	1,659	Eugene H. Avery.
4. Chicago	1847	...	40	2	5	19	147	279	3,160	130	60	95	5,362	147 45	6,687	3,803	685	275	...	82,218	13,858	David S. Johnson.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	9	...	...	11	82	77	944	38	24	34	970	56 13	406	138	22	10	19	15,153	839	John Maclean.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.								STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		Gen. Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN...	1857	4	41	...	2	35	247	73	1,868	21	83	125	2,916	$111 97	$994	$504	$229	$157	$127	$30,714	$2,225	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	14	...	...	10	36	26	708	6	10	63	1,200	44 52	338	229	11	65	96	8,672	1,015	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River	1851	...	12	...	...	8	21	6	390	...	4	1	651	21 72	148	87	29	10	3	2,718	235	Silas H. Ashmun.
3. Columbus	1857	...	12	...	2	11	83	29	499	15	44	35	731	29 88	285	112	13	9	23	6,524	360	Benjamin G. Riley.
4. Lake Superior	1857	...	6	...	...	6	107	12	271	...	25	26	334	15 85	223	76	176	73	5	12,800	615	[Vacant.]
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA	1853	7	63	1	5	66	375	364	3,108	94	152	136	4,239	152 53	916	328	283	100	54	69,503	5,995	Hannibal L. Stanley.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	6	...	...	8	39	69	344	...	32	6	415	21 12	70	40	......	...	...	25,996	160	Thomas O. Rice.
2. Keokuk	1852	...	5	...	...	4	6	2	205	22	...	8	520	19 86	70	22	9	...	...	2,716	485	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City	1852	...	12	...	2	10	29	57	278	8	7	25	675	13 56	73	2	12	2	...	3,519	162	Samuel Storrs Howe.
4. Dubuque	1855	...	15	...	2	16	106	80	887	38	32	39	865	32 61	440	103	220	16	24	14,895	1,087	Stephen Phelps.
5. Chariton	1857	...	4	...	...	8	57	7	363	...	29	18	210	18 15	58	......	......	...	...	......	8	Milton H. Dysart.
6. Cedar Rapids	1865	...	17	1	1	18	129	112	898	16	51	37	1,399	39 25	175	100	......	53	30	20,777	3,843	James Knox.
7. Omaha	1867	...	4	...	...	2	9	37	133	10	1	3	155	7 98	30	61	42	29	...	1,600	250	Francis M. Dimmick.
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA	1858	4	38	4	3	36	199	176	1,956	10	84	177	2,656	107 50	493	480	85	77	26	17,289	2,357	Jesse L. Howell.
1. Mankato	1846	...	13	...	...	10	22	42	348	2	5	36	516	18 21	120	56	7	7	10	3,097	440	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	12	...	...	12	72	70	610	4	18	20	1,250	36 60	312	335	53	65	5	7,175	1,590	John Mattocks.
3. Winona	1857	...	7	...	...	11	51	29	473	4	18	23	890	22 12	55	71	19	5	11	6,942	327	Joseph W. Hancock.
4. Dakota	1867	...	6	4	3	3	54	35	525	...	43	98	......	30 54	6	18	6	...	...	75	......	John P. Williamson.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI	1832	5	45	3	7	64	351	345	2,123	50	107	144	3,964	105 60	1,425	373	248	85	76	49,581	10,543	Timothy Hill.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	15	...	3	13	132	135	836	31	31	69	1,938	47 00	850	307	216	66	74	35,693	7,329	Raphael Kessler.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	7	...	2	9	51	19	288	...	22	11	532	14 03	117	38	......	...	...	1,008	2,759	James A. Darrah.
3. Lexington	1842	...	7	2	2	10	94	49	364	4	27	13	464	15 00	159	......	32	...	...	5,940	348	Elijah A. Carson.
4. Osage	1845	...	6	1	...	13	12	88	205	15	9	5	610	13 43	148	......	......	15	...	3,280	......	William S. Messmer.
5. Kansas	1859	...	10	...	...	19	62	54	430	...	18	46	390	16 14	151	28	......	4	2	3,660	107	William H. Smith.
XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.	1817	3	21	...	10	42	206	44	2,707	45	80	88	1,945	156 42	204	184	32	10	1	5,897	......	Thomas J. Lamar.
1. Union	1797	...	6	...	10	18	97	28	1,557	45	50	47	1,237	91 32	71	105	7	2	1	4,070	......	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston	1838	...	8	...	...	11	...	...	479	...	4	10	360	26 40	40	......	......	...	...	......	......	William B. Brown.
3. Holston	1865	...	7	...	...	13	109	16	671	...	26	31	348	38 70	93	79	25	8	...	1,827	......	Samuel V. McCorkle.
XXIII. S. OF A. CALIFORNIA.	1857	4	29	1	...	22	100	50	1,323	20	27	56	1,232	76 68	627	272	......	...	...	18,980	819	Edw'd B. Walsworth, D. D.
1. San Francisco*	1849	...	10	1	...	5	...	...	437	...	...	...	......	23 52	......	......	......	...	...	......	......	David McClure.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	4	...	...	4	58	17	311	20	20	29	475	24 00	360	30	......	...	...	9,675	285	Wilbur McKaig, D. D.
3. San José	1857	...	11	...	...	10	42	33	493	...	7	27	757	29 16	267	242	......	...	...	9,305	534	George Pierson, M. D.
4. Washoe*	1863	...	4	...	...	3	...	...	82	...	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	...	...	......	......	Albert F. White.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.				BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.							
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Unknown.	Adults.	Infants.		General Assembly.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Min. Relief.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	79	1	5	66	330	229	8,354	1308	143	144	7,052	$408 81	$7,735	$2,931	$256	$692	$60	$86,482	$8,996
2. Utica	1829	4	79	4	11	70	280	342	7,302	172	92	155	6,563	448 67	8,353	3,663	478	1,309	265	102,582	6,857
3. Onondaga	1855	4	74	15	17	67	374	317	9,555	46	204	104	5,420	508 70	7,429	5,928	5,940	840	111	60,492	18,421
4. Geneva	1812	6	100	2	21	89	440	307	9,702	475	200	155	8,611	574 68	5,351	3,494	757	671	440	144,535	5,258
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	37	1	3	39	146	99	3,521	268	69	52	3,027	194 86	788	1,017	205	127	123	24,292	2,012
6. Genesee	1821	6	138	7	15	105	799	566	14,149	615	356	285	15,097	875 53	9,727	8,901	5,664	1,224	710	132,284	17,273
7. New York and New Jersey	1788	9	297	47	78	167	1,873	1754	33,886	2836	531	980	37,777	1946 76	38,805	41,800	9,216	2,089	3,557	641,397	138,010
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	123	7	24	94	1,173	899	17,239	559	300	669	19,185	1086 04	12,676	11,379	2,353	2,122	2,160	268,150	47,048
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	32	...	6	33	211	185	3,953	22	67	131	3,818	222 68	6,555	2,467	1,570	571	651	75,409	9,914
10. Michigan	1834	9	122	5	13	125	708	715	11,030	271	246	296	14,340	637 22	4,915	3,571	948	875	392	141,271	14,611
11. Western Reserve	1825	5	96	4	23	74	297	338	6,716	292	122	185	8,383	414 69	3.961	4,756	1,402	772	499	86,309	7 097
12. Ohio	1814	4	47	7	10	64	271	139	4,499	90	93	119	5,087	279 93	2,673	3,026	1,118	184	241	59,390	8,759
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	56	5	1	47	281	266	4,112	140	69	155	5,032	221 94	3,131	2,921	530	452	525	55,554	10.110
14. Indiana	1826	4	47	3	12	63	759	228	5,008	136	277	182	5,626	275 62	2,469	2,336	770	283	255	81,337	6,973
15. Wabash	1851	4	42	...	9	54	358	195	3,293	25	155	99	3,559	181 48	1,056	910	158	167	85	29,701	2,448
16. Illinois	1831	4	86	2	2	99	651	486	6,307	240	176	288	8,751	341 49	4,117	2,017	458	753	81	102,694	7,678
17. Peoria	1843	5	105	2	13	69	462	620	7,221	319	172	242	10,407	393 27	8,448	4,938	978	426	77	157,243	17,407
18. Wisconsin	1857	4	44	...	2	35	247	73	1,868	21	83	125	2,916	111 97	994	504	229	157	127	30,714	2.225
19. Iowa	1853	7	63	1	5	66	375	364	3,108	94	152	136	4,239	152 53	916	328	283	100	54	69,503	5,995
20. Minnesota	1858	4	38	4	3	36	199	176	1,956	10	84	177	2,656	107 50	493	480	85	77	26	17,289	2.357
21. Missouri	1832	5	45	3	7	64	351	345	2,123	50	107	144	3,964	105 60	1,425	373	248	85	76	49,581	10,543
22. Tennessee	1817	3	21	...	10	42	206	44	2,707	45	80	88	1,945	156 42	204	184	32	10	1	5,897	
23. Alta California	1857	4	29	1	...	22	100	50	1,323	20	27	56	1,232	76 68	627	272	......	......	......	18,980	819
		111	1800	121	290	1590	10,891	8737	168,932	8054	3805	4967	184,687	$9723 07	$132,848	$108,196	$33,678	$13,986	$10,516	$2,441,086	$350,811

MINUTES, 1869.

New York City, N. Y., May 20th, 1869.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the church of the Covenant, in the city of New York, N. Y., on Thursday, the 20th of May, 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from John 17 : 21: "That they all may be one."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the morning session open at 8½ A. M., and close at 12½ o'clock P. M.; that the afternoon session open at 2½ o'clock, and close at 5½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be occupied with devotional exercises. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [248]

Thursday, May 20th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

On the report of the Committee on Commissions, the following persons were enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners of this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	George T. Everest,	Henry McFadden.
2. *Troy*,	James M. Crawford,	Elijah G. Atwood,
	George Van Deurs,	William P. Bliss.
3. *Albany*,	Henry Darling, D. D.,	Samuel Anable.
4. *Columbia*,	David R. Frazer,	Clarence W. Bacon.
5. *Catskill*,	George A. Howard,	David B. Hull.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	John Waugh,	William A. Eldridge.
2. *Watertown*,	John B. Preston,	William P. Massey, M. D.
3. *Oswego*,	Henry N. Millerd,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
4. *Utica*,	Philemon H. Fowler, D. D.,	Horatio G. Torbert, M. D.,
	S. W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D.,	Thomas Williams.

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	E. Kirby West.
2. *Cayuga*,	Ezra A. Huntington, D. D.,	Sylvester Willard, M. D.,
	Marcus N. Preston,	Hon. John Porter.
3. *Cortland*,	John V. C. Nellis,	Henry C. Hendrick, M. D.,
4. *Tioga*,	Solon Cobb,	Stephen D. Hand, M. D.

IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	A. Augustus Wood, D. D.,	Harvey Rice,
	David Magie,	Ebenezer B. Jones.
2. *Steuben*,	Joel Wakeman, D. D.,	Paul C. Howe.
3. *Chemung*,	Augustus W. Cowles, D. D.,	Hon. William T. Jackson.
4. *Ithaca*,	Alexander O. Peloubet,	Abram G. Opdyke.
5. *Wellsboro*,	Frederick Graves,	Hon. Henry W. Williams.
6. *Lyons*,	Robert E. Willson,	Henry M. Clark.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Charles Gillette.	
2. *Chenango*,	Sumner Mandeville,	Nelson G. Hunt.
3. *Delaware*,	Charles H. De Long,	Marsena Benedict.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	George W. Tew,
	Gros. W. Heacock, D. D.,	Loring Danforth (2).
2. *Ontario*,	Levi Parsons,	Orrin S. Gilbert (2).
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Frederick Starr,
	Alexander McA. Thorburn,	Louis Chapin.
4. *Genesee*,	John Wickes,	Augustus Cowdin.
5. *Niagara*,	Edward Payson Marvin,	William F. Evans.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Corliss B. Gardner.	[249]

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	George Pierson (2),	Jesse Roe.
2. *North River*,	Edgar W. Clark,	George Bates.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Stuart T. Terry.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Robt. Russell Booth, D. D.,	Cephas Brainerd (6),
	Thomas Street,	Stephen H. Thayer,
	James B. Bonar,	George W. Beale.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	William Adams, D. D.,	Hon. William E. Dodge,
	Thomas S. Hastings, D. D.,	George W. Lane,
	Howard Crosby D. D.,	William A. Cummings.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Norman Seaver, D. D.,	Nathan Lane,
	Samuel Carlile,	Harrison Teller, M. D.
7. *Newark*,	Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.,	William F. Van Wagenen,
	Daniel W. Poor, D. D.,	Hiram B. Littell,
	Charles T. Haley,	Frederick G. Burnham.
8. *Rockaway*,	John Ford,	Hon. Daniel Haines.
9. *Montrose*,	Charles S. Dunning,	Nathan P. Wilcox (2),
	Jacob G. Miller,	LaFayette Fitch (2).
10. *South Carolina*,	Silas McKinney.	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	John Patton, D. D.,	Edward T. Taylor (5).
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	William E. Moore,	Hon. William Strong (2),
	Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	Hon. Jos. Allison, LL.D. (2)
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Robert Adair,	Samuel T. Bodine,
	Richard H. Allen, D. D.,	Charles M. Lukens,
	Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	Peter L. Krider (2).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing, D. D.,	Peter Wilson.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Byron Sunderland, D. D.,	J. Faris Moore.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Erie*,	George W. Cleaveland,	Absalom M. Carson.
2. *Meadville*,	Richard Craighead,	Daniel Uber.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	William T. Wylie,	Wm. C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Albert E. Hastings,	Hon. Jacob S. Farrand.
2. *Monroe*,	J. Gordon Jones,	Ephraim R. Willard.
3. *Marshall*,	Thomas Sherrard,	Hon. George H. French.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	Gershom B. Gillett (2).
5. *Kalamazoo*,	John Sailor,	Daniel O. Roberts.
6. *Coldwater*,	Fred. R. Gallaher, D. D.,	Albert A. Luce.
7. *Saginaw*,	Archibald McSween,	Youngs E. Benton.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.*,	Louis Mills,	Henry Griffin.
9. *Lansing*,	J. Evarts Weed,	Joseph Mills.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Dwight K. Steele (2),	Orramel H. Fitch.
2. *Huron*,	William T. Hart,	Jairus Kennan.
3. *Trumbull*,	Xenophon Betts,	Jonathan Warner.
4. *Cleveland and Portage*,	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., James Shaw, D. D.,	Hon. John A. Foot, Thomas D. Crosby.
5. *Maumee*,	Perry C. Baldwin.	[250]

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Henry W. Ballantine,	Marcus Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.,	Timothy Rose.
3. *Franklin*,	John W. Thompson,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto*,	E. Perkins Pratt, D. D.,	David C. Anderson (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., George M. Maxwell, D. D.,	Guernsey Y. Roots, Francis Ferry.
2. *Ripley*,	Henry Osborn,	John West.
3. *Dayton*,	Rollin A. Sawyer,	Daniel Keifer.
4. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin W. Chidlaw,	John Irwin.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Charles Hutchinson,	Joseph Loughmiller.
2. *Madison*,	Manuel J. Drennan.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Alexander Parker,	William H. Wishard (4).
4. *Green Castle*,	Blackford Condit,	R. Wilds Jones.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Caleb Mills, LL.D.,	John Foster (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	George C. Noyes.	
3. *Logansport*,	Amos Jones,	Noah Cory.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Henry L. Brown,	Hon. John L. Knight.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Illinois*,	Smith H. Hyde,	John Crocker.
2. *Schuyler*,	William W. Whipple.	
3. *Wabash*,	Russell D. Van Deursen,	Eben H. Palmer.
4. *Alton*,	Gideon C. Clark,	David E. Beatty,
	James W. Stark,	Lewis Potter.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Wellington W. Wells,	Charles Merwin.
2. *Knox*,	Edward H. Curtis,	John Irwin.
3. *Galena and Belvidere*.	Josiah Leonard,	Thomas Wilson,
	Edwards Marsh,	Calvin A. Shaw.
4. *Chicago*,	Robert W. Patterson, D. D.,	Claudius B. Nelson,
	Arthur Mitchell,	Royal E. Barber.
5. *Bloomington*,	Charles H. Palmer,	Benjamin E. Miles.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	John Martin,	Owen R. Bacon.
2. *Fox River*,	John Fairchild.	
3. *Columbus*,	Warren Mayo,	Ephraim G. Stitt.
4. *Lake Superior*,	George W. Lloyd,	John B. Clark (2).

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Asa Johnson.	
2. *Keokuk*,	Charles R. French,	Nathaniel Heizer.
3. *Iowa City*,	Abner D. Chapman,	William Ballantyne.
4. *Dubuque*,	David Blakely,	Proctor C. Samson.
5. *Chariton*,	John Fisher,	Robert M. Evans.
6. *Cedar Rapids*,	John Summers,	Benjamin K. Adams.
7. *Omaha*,	George L. Little,	Elmer D. Dimmick. [251]

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

1. *Mankato*,	Moses N. Adams,	William P. McMasters.
2. *Minnesota*,	Frederick W. Flint,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
3. *Winona*,	Delos E. Wells (2),	Andrew B. Coe (2).
4. *Dakota*,	Stephen R. Riggs.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Raphael Kessler,	James M. Brawner.
2. *Northern Missouri*,	Thomas H. Tatlow,	Homer H. Winchell.
3. *Lexington*,	Elijah A. Carson,	Charles F. Smith.
4. *Osage*,	Seth G. Clark,	G. Whitelaw Shield.

XXII. SYNOD OF KANSAS.

1. *Kansas*,	Victor M. King,	Wm. P. Montgomery.
2. *Humboldt*,	James Lewis,	Philetus Fales.
3. *Smoky Hill*,	J. Levis Jones,	Benj. F. Thayer, M. D.

XXIII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Isaac Emory,	Benj. A. Blackburn (2).
2. *Kingston*,	William B. Brown,	William S. Petter (2).
3. *Holston*,	Nathan Bachman,	Joseph R. Brown (2).

XXIV. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Nevada,*	Alexander M. Stewart.	
3. *San José,*	William W. Brier,	David Huber.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the other Branch,*	Rev. Chas. C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., Hon. Robert McKnight.
2. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*	
3. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.*	
4. *General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.*	
5. *General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.*	
6. *Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church,*	Rev. William Ormiston, D. D.
7. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America,*	Rev. John L. See, D. D.
8. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.*	
9. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.*	[252]
10. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.*	
11. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine.*	
12. *General Association of New Hampshire.*	
13. *General Convention of Vermont.*	
14. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts,*	Rev. Edward Strong, D. D.
15. *General Association of Connecticut,*	Rev. Robert G. Vermilye, D. D.
16. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.*	
17. *Union of Evangelical Churches of France.*	

The Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., of the Presbytery of Utica, was elected Moderator, and inducted into office.

The Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, and the Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

The reception of the Synodical Records, Statistical Reports, Narratives, and all papers intended for the Assembly, was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the responses of the Presbyteries to the Overture on Reunion be referred for collation and a classified report to the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Rev. Charles S. Dunning, and Messrs. Nathan Lane and Guernsey Y. Roots.

Ordered, That, for the future, a Standing Committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred so much of the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Home Missions, as relates to the Freedmen's Department.

Resolved, That a *Committee* of five ministers and five elders be appointed, to-morrow morning, by the Moderator, to confer with any like Committee of the Assembly of the other branch on the subject of Reunion.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [253]

Friday, May 21*st*, 8½ *o'clock A. M.*

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication from the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, accrediting a deputation of two of its members to this General Assembly, was referred for consideration and report to the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., and Rev. James B. Bonar.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., Byron Sunderland, D. D., Robert Russell Booth, D. D., Charles S. Dunning, Henry W. Ballantine, John Fairchild. *Elders*—Hon. John A. Foot, Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Samuel Anable, Joseph Loughmiller, Noah Cory.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Conway P. Wing, D. D., Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., John Waugh, James Shaw, D. D., Robert E. Willson, Richard Craighead. *Elders*—Hon. John Porter, Hon. William T. Jackson, Frederick G. Burnham, Jairus Kennan, Royal E. Barber.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry Darling, D. D., E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., Xenophon Betts, Epher Whitaker, George Pierson, Russell D. Van Deursen. *Elders*—Hon. Henry W. Williams, Stephen H. Thayer, Charles M. Lukens, Timothy Rose, Ephraim R. Willard.

4. *Foreign Missions. Ministers*—Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Stephen R. Riggs, Alexander M. Stewart, Gustavus L. Foster, J. Evarts Weed, Charles H. Palmer. *Elders*—Frederick Starr, Claudius B. Nelson, Elijah G. Atwood, Proctor C. Samson, Jonathan Warner.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., George M. Maxwell, D. D., Augustus H. Cowles. D. D., Caleb Mills, LL. D., John Patton, D. D., Charles Hutchinson. *Elders.*—Sylvester Willard, M. D., George W. Lane, Frederick G. Burnham, Daniel Keifer, Benjamin F. Thayer, M. D. [254]

6. *Home Missions. Ministers*—Zephaniah Humphrey, D. D., Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., William W. Brier, J. Levis Jones, Frederick R. Gallaher, D. D., Norman Seaver, D. D. *Elders*—Thomas Williams, George W. Tew, William Ballantyne, William C. Aughinbaugh, James M. Brawner.

7. *Freedmen.* *Ministers*—Arthur Mitchell, Joel Wakeman, D. D., Silas McKinney, William T. Wylie, Jacob G. Miller, William B. Brown. *Elders*—Nathan Lane, John West, Hiram B. Littell, William P. Bliss, J. Faris Moore.

8. *Publication.* *Ministers*—Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., A. Augustus Wood, D. D., Levi Parsons, Wellington W. Wells, Richard H. Allen, D. D., George T. Everest. *Elders*—William A. Cummings, Elmer D. Dimmick, G. Whitelaw Shield, David E. Beatty, Daniel O. Roberts.

9. *Church Erection.* *Ministers*—Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rollin A. Sawyer, George C. Noyes, Raphael Kessler, Henry N. Millerd, Edward P. Marvin. *Elders*—Ebenezer B. Jones, Guernsey Y. Roots, E. Kirby West, Louis Chapin, Daniel W. Ingersoll.

10. *Sabbath-schools.* *Ministers*—Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Alexander McA. Thorburn, Isaac Emory, George Van Deurs, Benjamin W. Chidlaw, Thomas Street. *Elders*—Joseph Mills, Eben H. Palmer, Calvin A. Shaw, Owen R. Bacon, Stephen D. Hand, M. D.

11. *Ministerial Relief.* *Ministers*—Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., William W. Whipple, Marcus N. Preston, Alexander Parker, John Sailor, Henry Osborn. *Elders*—Hon. George H. French, Harvey Rice, Augustus Cowdin, R. Wilds Jones, Homer H. Winchell.

12. *Narrative of Religion.* *Ministers*—David Magie, Addison Kingsbury, D. D., Solon Cobb, Charles Gillette, George W. Cleaveland, J. Gordon Jones. *Elders*—Henry McFadden, Henry M. Clark, Harrison Teller, M. D., Peter Wilson, Thomas B. Crosby.

13. *Mileage of Commissioners.* *Elders*—Francis Ferry, George W. Beale, Samuel T. Bodine. [255]

14. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—Howard Crosby, D. D., James B. Bonar, Robert Adair, Charles T. Haley, Sumner Mandeville, James M. Crawford. *Elders*—William P. Montgomery, Henry C. Hendrick, M. D., Alvan G. Opdyke, George Bates, John B. Clark.

15. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—Josiah Leonard, George L. Little, Frederick W. Flint, William T. Hart, John V. C. Nellis, Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—William T. Van Wagenen, Youngs E. Benton, Henry Griffen, Orramel H. Fitch, David B. Hull.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records:

1. *Synod of Albany.* *Ministers*—John Wickes, Charles H. De Long, Corliss B. Gardner. *Elders*—John McElroy, Lewis Potter.

2. *Synod of Utica.* *Ministers*—Samuel Carlile, John Ford, William E. Moore. *Elders*—Charles Marvin, John Irwin.

3. *Synod of Onondaga.* *Ministers*—Amos Jones, Henry L. Brown, Gideon C. Clark. *Elders*—Owen R. Bacon, Ephraim G. Stitt.

4. *Synod of Geneva.* *Ministers*—John Martin, Warren Mayo, George W. Lloyd. *Elders*—Nathaniel Heizer, Robert M. Evans.

5. *Synod of Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—James W. Stark, Wellington W. Wells, Edward H. Curtis. *Elders*—Charles F. Smith, William P. McMasters.

6. *Synod of Genesee.* *Ministers*—Moses N. Adams, Frederick W. Flint, Elijah A. Carson. *Elders*—John Irwin, John West.

7. *Synod of New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—Thomas H. Tatlow, Seth G. Clark. Victor M. King. *Elders*—Philetus Fales, David Huber.

8. *Synod of Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—John B. Preston, David R. Frazer, Corliss B. Gardner. *Elders*—Henry McFadden, Elijah G. Atwood.

9. *Synod of West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—George L. Little, John Summers, John Fisher. *Elders*—William P. Bliss, Samuel Anable. [256]

10. *Synod of Michigan.* *Ministers*—Nathan Bachman, James Lewis, David Blakely. *Elders*—Clarence W. Bacon, David B. Hull.

11. *Synod of Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Abner D. Chapman, Charles R. French, Asa Johnson. *Elders*—William A. Eldridge, Daniel W. Ingersoll.

12. *Synod of Ohio.* *Ministers*—Blackford Condit, Manuel J. Drennan, Perry C. Baldwin. *Elders*—Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Thomas Williams.

13. *Synod of Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—John W. Thompson, Louis Mills, Thomas Sherrard. *Elders*—E. Kirby West, Sylvester Willard, M. D.

14. *Synod of Indiana.* *Ministers*—Albert E. Hastings, Edgar W. Clark, George T. Everest. *Elders*—Hon. John Porter, Henry C. Hendricks, M. D.

15. *Synod of Wabash.* *Ministers*—James M. Crawford, George Van Deurs, David R. Frazer. *Elders*—Ebenezer R. Jones, Harvey Rice.

16. *Synod of Illinois.* *Ministers*—John Waugh, John B. Preston, Henry N. Millerd. *Elders*—Hon William T. Jackson, Abram G. Opdyke.

17. *Synod of Peoria.* *Ministers*—Marcus N. Preston, John V. C. Nellis, Solon Cobb. *Elders*—Henry M. Clark, Nelson G. Hunt.

18. *Synod of Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—David Magie, Joel Wakeman, D. D., Alexander O. Peloubet. *Elders*—Frederick Starr, George W. Tew.

19. *Synod of Iowa.* *Ministers*—Robert E. Willson, Charles Gillette, Sumner Mandeville. *Elders*—Louis Chapin, Augustus Cowdin.

20. *Synod of Minnesota.* *Ministers*—Levi Parsons, Alexander McA. Thorburn, John Wickes. *Elders*—William F. Evans, Jesse Roe.

21. *Synod of Missouri.* *Ministers*—Edward P. Marvin, Corliss B. Gardner, George Pierson. *Elders*—George Bates, Stuart T. Terry.

22. *Synod of Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Edgar W. Clark, Epher Whitaker, Thomas Street. *Elders*—Stephen H. Thayer, George W. Beale. [257]

23. *Synod of Alta California.* *Ministers*—James B. Bonar, Samuel Carlile, Charles T. Haley. *Elders*—William A. Cummings, George W. Lane.

The Moderator also announced the following Special Committee:

On Reunion. *Ministers*—William Adams, D. D., Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., James B. Shaw, D. D. *Elders*—Hon. William Strong, Hon. Daniel Haines, Hon. William E. Dodge, Hon. Jacob S. Farrand, Hon. John L. Knight.

The Records of the Synods, the Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and other papers from the Presbyteries, were received, and appropriately referred.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

The Committee on the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, continued by the last Assembly, presented a report, which was referred to the Special Committee on Reunion, just appointed.

The annual report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

A communication was received from the General Assembly in session at the Brick church, announcing that a Committee of Conference, consisting of the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., Rev. A. G. Hall, D. D., Rev. Lyman Atwater, D. D., Rev. Willis Lord, D. D., Rev. Henry R. Wilson, D. D., and the Elders, Robert Carter, J. C. Grier, Charles D. Drake, Henry Day, and William M. Francis, had been appointed to confer with a similar Committee, if appointed by this Assembly, on the subject of the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, to report during the present sessions, and at as early a day as practicable, what further action, if any, should be taken on the subject.

The Stated Clerk was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the communication, and to state that a similar Committee, with like purpose, has been appointed by this Assembly.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [258]

Friday, May 21st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Treasurer of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions presented his annual report, which was referred to the Standing Committee.

The annual reports of the Education Committee, of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, were severally read and referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

The report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly was read, and referred to Messrs. Nathan Lane and Sylvester Willard, M. D., for audit.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 22d, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The annual report of the Permanent Committee on Sabbath-schools was read, and referred to the corresponding Standing Committee.

A recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, in answer to Overtures from four Presbyteries, asking for a reduction of the apportionment to meet the expenses of the General Assembly, was referred to the Mileage Committee.

The reports of the Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut, of the Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire, and of the Rev. Francis B. Wheeler, the Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, were read and accepted.

The report of the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., the Delegate to the Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and to the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, was read, and, having been accepted, its suggestions were referred for consideration and report to the Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., the Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., and the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D. [259]

The Assembly, on invitation, resolved to meet. in joint prayer-meeting, with the Assembly of the other branch, at the Brick church, on Monday morning, from 8½ o'clock to 9½ o'clock.

Resolved, That while this Assembly sympathize most heartily with the noble and touching tribute to be paid to the memory of our buried soldiers whose lives were sacrificed in the cause of the Union, as, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic, their graves are to be decorated with floral offerings, yet we enter our most earnest protest against the proposed unnecessary desecration of the Sabbath for this purpose; and urgently request the proper authorities to appoint the next Saturday as the time for this interesting ceremony.

A *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Zephaniah Humphrey, D. D., the Rev. Benjamin W. Chidlaw, and Mr. Frederick Starr, was appointed to report this action of the Assembly to the officers of the Grand Army, and to make such further publication as may seem to be called for.

Adjourned until Monday morning, at 9¾ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 24th, 9¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The further calling of the Roll was dispensed with, until the closing session of the Assembly.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the collation of answers from the Presbyteries, to the Overture on Reunion sent down by the last Assembly, presented the following report; which was accepted and referred to the Special Committee on Conference respecting Reunion.

The Special Committee appointed to collate the answers of the Presbyteries to the Overture on the subject of Reunion sent down to them by order of the last Assembly, respectfully report: That the following Presbyteries have expressed their approval, giving their consent to the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, on the basis proposed by the Joint Committee of thirty, and approved by the two Assemblies meeting in May, 1868, respectively, in Albany, N. Y., and Harrisburgh, Pa., viz.:—Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, Catskill, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, Tioga, Geneva, Steuben, Chemung, Ithaca, Wellsborough, Lyons, Otsego, Chenango, Delaware, Buffalo, Ontario, Rochester, Genesee, Niagara, Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brook[260]lyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, Erie, Meadville, Pittsburgh. Monroe, Marshall, Kalamazoo, Cold Water, Lansing, Grand River, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Hamilton, Salem, Madison, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, St. Joseph, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Alton, Ottawa, Knox, Bloomington, Milwaukee, Fox River, Columbus, Lake Superior, Des Moines, Keokuk, Iowa City, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids, Omaha, Mankato, Minnesota, Dakota, St. Louis, Osage, Lexington, Kansas, Union, Holston, San Francisco, Northern Missouri, Nevada, San José, and Humboldt. In all 100.

The following Presbyteries have answered the Overture in the negative: District of Columbia, Detroit, Washtenaw, Chicago.—4.

The Committee also report, for the information of the Assembly, the action of its Presbyteries on the general subject of Reunion in the following particulars: First, the Presbyteries assenting to the amending of the Basis by the omission, first, of that part of the Basis in the first article which begins with the words "it being understood," and ends with the words "in the separate churches;" and, second, of the whole of the tenth article; are as follows: Troy, Albany, Columbia, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, Geneva, Chemung, Wellsborough, Tioga, Otsego, Ontario, Rochester. Genesee. Genesee Valley, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Montrose, Philadelphia, 4th, Harrisburgh, District of Columbia, Erie, Detroit, Monroe. Marshall, Saginaw, Lansing, Grand River, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland and Portage, Maumee, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Cincinnati, Ripley, Dayton, Salem, Indianapolis, Green Castle, Crawfordsville, St. Joseph, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Illinois, Schuyler, Wabash, Ottawa, Knox, Chicago, Bloomington, Fox River, Lake Superior, Des Moines, Mankato, Minnesota, Winona, Dakota, St. Louis, Lexington, Chariton, Cedar Rapids, Belvidere, San José, Humboldt, Holston.—75. The Presbyteries expressing their dissent to these proposed amendments of the Basis are: Catskill, Pittsburgh, Dubuque. —3.

The following Presbyteries express rather a preference or a willingness to have the Reunion accomplished upon the simple Basis of the standards: Genesee Valley, Wilmington, Meadville, Pataskala, Rochester, Niagara, Huron, Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, Columbus, Kansas, Chariton, Chenango.—14.

The Presbyteries of Scioto, Logansport, Ottawa, Lyons, and Northern Missouri add to this expression of their willingness to have the Reunion thus accomplished, the condition that three-fourths "of the Presbyteries assent."

The following Presbyteries express a desire that the General Assembly should consummate this Reunion without again referring the proposed Basis of it to them, and in their own language [261] empower and authorize the Assembly so to do: Champlain, Troy, Albany, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Cayuga, Otsego, Buffalo, North River, Detroit, Grand River Valley, Athens, Ripley, Madison, Wabash, Keokuk, Mankato, St. Louis, Humboldt, Winona, Steuben, Knox, Iowa City, Galena, and Belvidere.—26.

The Presbyteries of Philadelphia, 4th, and Pittsburgh, express their opposition to Reunion upon any basis that has not been specifically approved by a majority of the Presbyteries of each class.

Several Presbyteries append to their action on this question certain conditions besides those already mentioned. These are as follows: The Presbytery of Knox, in assenting to the proposed amendment of the first article of the basis, add, "Provided all reasonable liberty in interpretation be not relinquished."

The Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th, say, "It must, however, be well understood that, by agreeing to the omissions in question, the Presbytery do not relinquish nor deny the right to all reasonable liberty in the statement of views and the interpretation of the standards not impairing the integrity of the Calvinistic system."

The Presbytery of Huron passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That we say to the General Assembly that in any case we shall always claim the right, according to the Constitution of the Church and the Plan of Union, to deal with the Congregational churches now on our roll without interference from the higher judicatories of the Church.

The Presbytery of Maumee ask for certain specified changes in the second article of the basis, and would have it construed as directory and advisory, and not as imperative.

The Presbytery of Washtenaw, in replying negatively to the motion of the Assembly, express conviction that the first step in the negotiations for Reunion should be the repeal of the exscinding acts and the imperative rule in respect to presbyterial examinations.

The Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., the Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., and the Hon. Robert McKnight, the Delegates of the General Assembly now in session at the Brick church, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The Rev. John L. See, D. D., the Delegate of the General Synod of the Reformed Church, the Rev. Edward Strong, D. D., the Delegate of the General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts, and the Rev. Robert G. Vermilye, D. D., the Delegate of the General Association of Connecticut, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [262]

Monday, May 24th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was accepted and recommitted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on several Overtures, urging the importance of diminishing the expense of sending Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and recommended the following answer: That it is inexpedient at present to make any change of the rule or usage of the General Assembly on this subject.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture asking some action of the Assembly in regard to street-preaching, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That we esteem it an imperative and solemn duty of the churches, to put forth strenuous and persistent efforts to reach the unevangelized multitudes of our villages, towns and cities; that we hold, that any failure in this respect is not the fault of the Presbyterian polity, but of the men who work it; that we enjoin all the ministers, elders, and members of our churches to use all feasible methods to bring the Gospel in contact with the minds and hearts of those outside of our churches.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture from the Presbytery of Lyons, (1) on the unstable connection between ministers and churches, (2) on the inadequate supply of our churches, and (3) on the introduction of a Sustentation Fund System, recommended the following resolutions:

1. That, while the instability of the pastoral relation arises out of the uneasiness incident to growing and changing communities, and so cannot be removed by legislation, still the Presbyteries themselves can do much to abate it, by honoring the pastoral relation, and declining, except in extraordinary cases, to ordain young men as evangelists, to serve as stated supplies.

2. That the Presbyteries be instructed to appoint a Standing Committee on Vacancies, whose duty it shall be to negotiate between ministers and vacant churches, and endeavor to secure the regular preaching of the Gospel in every church.

3. That it is inexpedient to take any action concerning a Sustentation Fund at this time.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee, in answer to an Overture on the subject of Ministers Without Charge, and Vacant Churches, reported the following recommendations: [263]

1. That the attention of the Synods be called to the rule adopted by the General Assembly of 1834, (Minutes, page 450, and Digest, page 65.) namely: "That, when ministers have withdrawn in whole or in part from the work of the ministry, it be enjoined upon the Presbyteries to which they belong to require of such ministers their reasons for so doing; which reasons are to be put on record by the Presbytery with an expression of their approbation or disapprobation of the same."

2. That the Synods be required at their next regular meeting to obtain replies from their several Presbyteries to the (two following) questions, namely:

(1.) Whether the above recited rule of the Assembly of 1834 has been observed by the Presbytery.

(2.) Whether proper discipline has been exercised, in cases where the reasons for withdrawal from ministerial duty have been disapproved by the Presbytery; and also in cases of habitual absence from the meetings of the Presbytery without the rendering of sufficient excuse.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was again presented, adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave respectfully to report: That they regard the labors of your Permanent Committee with unqualified interest and satisfaction, and they indulge the cheerful and confident hope, that, through the blessing of God upon the wise plans and faithful efforts which that Committee have set on foot, a practical and thorough interest in the great work of Foreign Missions is to be extended throughout all the churches of our communion, till not one shall be found which will not, according to its measure, respond to the spirit of the great command, "Go ye into all the world,.and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Nor are we at all discouraged in this hope, by the large number of churches which are reported to us as having made no collection for this cause during the past year. Many of our churches have doubtless failed to report their collections, many more of them are feeble churches, destitute of a stated ministry and the regular ordinances of the Gospel.

We do not mention these facts to excuse, but to explain, and to say, that we believe that the considerate and earnest supervision, which it is the special office and care of your Permanent Committee to exercise in this matter, will soon reach most, if not all. of these churches, and, exciting within them the large and catholic spirit of Christian Missions, will make the weak strong, and the strong stronger.

Moreover, we take to ourselves, as pastors and teachers of the churches—as we believe is our solemn duty before God—the chief responsibility in this matter, and we say with all solemnity, [264] If the churches do not regard the great cause of the world's evangelization as they ought, the responsibility is chiefly with the ministry of the churches.

A ministry, whose hearts are all aflame with the intense fire of the Missionary impulse, will set the heart of the Church aglow with the same spirit. It should burn in our hearts with a fervor, which neither the indifference nor worldliness of the churches, nay, which many and great waters, cannot quench. And this responsibility of ours is greatly increased from the consideration, that the very life and spirituality of the Church itself largely depend on a deeper and more self-sacrificing consecration to this work.

It is in this direction, that we welcome and applaud the office and operations of your Committee. That Committee can make its voice heard in the Synods and Presbyteries, and through them in the churches.

We welcome its agency, for a closer supervision of this work, through synodical and presbyterial Committees on Foreign Missions in all the Synods and Presbyteries of the Church. We believe this to be the best and truest way to reach the separate churches, and to develop in them the spirit of this work. We ask them to speak to us, in the name and with the authority of the great Author of the Gospel and its ineffable grace, to unfold and emphasize upon our minds the mighty and commanding force of the evangelical impulse.

Sheldon Dibble once said, that a man must be as truly convicted and converted on the missionary question, in order to be a missionary, as a sinner must be convicted and converted in order to his being a Christian. Ought we not to act on this principle among the churches?

The work of the world's evangelization accumulates, in its highest intensity, the whole force of the evangelical motive. Let that motive be unfolded and expounded: the world in its vast and deep ruin throwing us back upon the infinite and glorious energies of the Cross; the moral misery of the race upon the riches of the divine redemption—"Deep calling unto deep."

Let these voices find repeated utterance in words of profound and earnest appeal. Let us believe, that we have a right to be heard again and again, in the interests of such a cause, the cause of Christ's glory and the redemption of men.

It is on such motives as these that we may and must chiefly rely. The Church will not give even its surplus wealth to a cause whose claims are either impertinent or impotent; the claims of this great cause are transcendent.

And, when your Permanent Committee have thus spoken to the conscience and heart of the Church, let them proceed undiscouraged in the more patient and practical work of finding, for the expression of this awakened interest, both a time and a mode, a season and a channel.

Let them, through the Presbyterial Committees, seek to increase among the churches both the observance of, and the interest which [265] ought to attach to the Monthly Concert, urging that that interest can alone be rendered intelligent and earnest, by frequent reports of missionary labors and successes, missionary toils and triumphs, from the far-off fields of missionary work. Thus let your Committee seek to develop the large and loving, and yet systematic, benevolence of the Church in this cause. The results of such patient effort on their part will be worth all and vastly more than all the labor they may cost.

We desire that the Assembly should heartily commend and encourage the Committee, in endeavoring to overtake such a close, comprehensive, and vigorous supervision of this work.

We cannot close this paper without, in the name of the Assembly, sending the "All hail!" of a fraternal and affectionate greeting to the dear brethren and sisters of our branch of the Church, who, in distant lands, or among the scattered tribes of our own country, are seeking to make known "the unsearchable riches of Christ." A tender sympathy thrills our hearts as we bear them in prayer to the throne of the heavenly grace. In the sight of God, we hold ourselves bound, not only to Christ, but to them also, that their labors and sacrifices shall not be in vain, but shall be carried forward to their glorious and world-wide consummation.

We also desire to express our large and continued confidence in that great organization through which we are carrying forward the work of Foreign Missions—the A. B. C. F. M., a name highly and justly honored, as among the most venerable and successful of all the missionary organizations of the age.

The terms of five members of the Permanent Committee expire with the present Assembly. We recommend the re-appointment of three of that number, namely: Walter S. Griffith, Thomas Bond, and Nathan Lane; and the appointment of Robert Jaffray in the place of Horace J. Poinier, resigned; and of George Endicott, in the place of Hon. John E. Torrey, whose distant residence renders it inconvenient for him to attend the sessions of the Committee in this city.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had found the account of the

Treasurer correct; they recommended its approval, and that it be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [266]

The Special Committee on Manses and Ministerial Libraries reported progress, and were continued.

On the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the Synods of Western Reserve, Geneva, Missouri, Albany, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Peoria, Pennsylvania, Indiana, West Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Susquehanna, Alta California, Genesee, Utica, Ohio, New York and New Jersey, Wabash and Wisconsin, were approved as far as written. The Committees on the Records of the Synods of Cincinnati and Onondaga reported that the Records had not been placed in their hands; and they were accordingly discharged.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture from the Presbytery of Des Moines, as follows:

A church has been dissolved by the Presbytery, letters having been given the members to unite with any evangelical church where God may, in his providence, cast their lot.

One of these members holds such a letter more than eighteen months old, not having used said letter. Is such a member amenable to the Presbytery, and is the Presbytery under obligation to receive, entertain, and pass upon a complaint entered against such party, holding said letter?

The Committee recommend that this Overture be answered in the affirmative, on the following grounds:

1. That every church-member is amenable to some appropriate tribunal, and that, in the case specified in the Overture, this tribunal must be the Presbytery.

2. That every member of a church continues to be amenable to that church, until he becomes regularly connected with another.

The same Committee reported papers showing that, at a meeting of the Synod of Missouri, on the third of October, 1869, three Presbyteries, namely, the Presbyteries of Kansas, Humboldt, and Smoky Hill, were erected out of the Presbytery of Kansas, for the purpose of being erected into a Synod, to be called "the Synod of Kansas," by the General Assembly, and also that the Presbyteries so erected have severally made application to the same effect. The Committee recommend, that the request be granted; and that the Assembly order, that the Presbyteries of Kansas, Humboldt, and Smoky Hill, now within the bounds of the Synod of Missouri, be erected into a Synod to be called "the Synod of Kansas;" that its first meeting be held in the city of Lawrence, on the second Thursday of October next, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and that the Rev. William H. Smith, of the Presbytery of Kansas, (or, in his absence, the next senior minister present,) preach the opening sermon, and act as Moderator, until his successor be appointed by the Synod.

The report was adopted. [267]

The same Committee reported the following question:

Is it expedient that the Assembly, by a standing rule, require its Permanent Committees, in their reports, to give the percentage of cost in connection with the amount of funds raised, together with a comparison, in this particular, with the preceding year?

In answer the Committee proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That, inasmuch as several of the benevolent enterprises of the Church are in their infancy, such a standing rule as is proposed would be unfair in its operation, and its adoption would therefore be inexpedient.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Sabbath-schools presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

No observer of signs can fail to note that the institution of Sabbath-schools is acquiring a broader and deeper hold on the Christian mind of the country, and is gathering to itself influences and agencies which make it a great and growing power in the land. It has its own extensive literature, its own particular public advocates, and its institutes and conventions, both local and national. Already has it, in many churches, absorbed the vitality of the second Sabbath service, and even displaced it altogether. To its instrumentality, thus encouraged and developed, many of our churches are largely indebted for their steady increase. This magnitude of importance has been reached, to a great extent, through the efforts of laymen devoted to the cause. Yet, with all that has been done, it is plain that all the capacities for good which lie in this institution have not been fully developed. We seem to be only at the beginning of a new stage of progress, in reference to it.

The question before the Assembly is, Shall we let this power work on as it has done and take care of itself, or shall we bring it under our distinct recognition, and give it, as far as may be, our fostering and regulating influence? Thus far the Assembly has felt that something ought to be done, without at the same time being willing to afford the means for doing anything. It is an attitude which your Committee deem unworthy of this body, and dishonorable to the cause thus treated. A clear line of policy should be determined upon and adopted, or the whole matter should be entirely dropped.

It is, therefore, with no disparagement to the cause of Sabbath-schools that your Committee recommend the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The proper management of the Sabbath-school interest, in connection with our body, can only be secured through the appointment of a Permanent Secretary, whom the Assembly has not the means of sustaining; and [268]

Whereas, The possible change in the future constituency of this body renders the adoption of any new measures at this juncture unadvisable.

Resolved, That the Sabbath-school Committee be, and hereby is, at its own request, disbanded.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Special Committee appointed by the last Assembly, at the suggestion of the Presbyterian Convention held in Philadelphia, for conference with other Presbyterian bodies concerning Union, presented a report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Reunion.

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication of the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church—a Church recently formed by the union of the Free and United Presbyterian Synods of Canada—would recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Assembly would heartily reciprocate the expressions of kind feeling and Christian esteem toward us, contained in their communication.
2. That the Assembly express their willingness to enter into correspondence with this body by an interchange of Delegates, on the same conditions which characterize our correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies.
3. That the Rev. William Ormiston, D. D., the only one present of the Delegates appointed by the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church to open this correspondence, be now admitted as a correspondent to the floor of the Assembly.
4. That the Assembly appoint a Delegate to attend the sessions of the Canada Synod, to meet at Hamilton, on the eighth day of June next, to convey to the members of that body our fraternal salutations, and consult with them on the common interests of our Redeemer's kingdom.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee, congratulate the Assem[269]bly on the steady and substantial advance from year to year which this important cause is making, in its hold on the intelligent sympathy of our churches. Our Church has been slow in accepting this cause, as a necessity to the completeness of her equipment for the field. She has been reluctant to cherish an enterprise, which seemed to many to be imposed upon her chiefly by the demands of her separateness, and by the usages of sister Churches. There has been a skepticism on this subject, growing out of a chronic aversion to the least appearance of exclusiveness, and also out of a reasonable fear of creating a financial power within the Church which might become intrusive, assuming, and arbitrary, gradually embarrassing our liberties, and awakening jealousies and suspicions, from which we have been, and would fain continue to be, free. It is not to be denied that, in other Churches, large and cumbrous publishing interests have sometimes proved unwieldy, and have exerted a kind and a degree of influence, that have given some occasion for the fear and the caution which have been manifested among us. But, on the other hand, it is maintained with great and—as it seems to us—with conclusive force, that there is in our body a prevalent and characteristic spirit, which makes it quite improbable, if not almost impossible, that the publishing interest should ever attain such disproportionate magnitude, or wield such an undue influence. It has also become each year more evident, that a true and effective catholicity requires, as the base for its advances toward a higher Christian unity, a well-rounded denominational completeness. With respect to such completeness, in comparison with sister Churches, there can be no question, that our special deficiency has been the lack of proportionate zeal and enterprise in the cause of publication. Your Committee would, therefore, urge upon the pastors and the churches the importance of giving to this cause a more hearty sympathy, and a more effective co-operation. The demand for donations to our Home Missionaries must continue to increase rapidly, and that demand should never fail of a generous supply.

The report of the Permanent Committee shows a most encouraging appreciation of the vital importance of the claims of our Sabbath-schools upon their increased attention. A "Sub-committee on Sabbath-schools" has been appointed for the general supervision of this branch of the work. They will aim to promote the diffusion of a better Sabbath-school literature, and to awaken a deeper interest in the extension of the Sabbath-school work in the destitute portions of our broad field.

Your Committee would call the attention of the pastors and the sessions of our churches to the claims of the *Presbyterian Monthly*, which have been repeatedly and earnestly urged. Surely the circulation of this valuable organ of our Church ought to be increased.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: [270]

1. That the Committees on Publication in the several Presbyteries be requested, to urge upon the representatives of each of their churches, the duty of disseminating among their people regular intelligence concerning the various departments of our church work, by promoting the general circulation of *The Presbyterian Monthly*.

2. That the Permanent Committee be authorized, at their discretion, to employ a general agent to visit the churches and Sabbath-schools, to bring them into connection with the Committee's work; and to devote himself to the cause of Sabbath-school extension, and to the promotion of higher efficiency in our Sabbath-schools generally.

Your Committee would also recommend the appointment of the following persons to fill the places of the members of the Permanent Committee whose term of office has expired: Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., Samuel C. Perkins, Esq., and Messrs. Robert M. Willson and George W. Simons.

The report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House shows that the interests intrusted to them are carefully conserved; and we recommend the re-election of the following Trustees: Mr. John C. Farr, Charles S. Wurts, M. D., Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. William T. Eva, and Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.

The Judicial Committee presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Judicial Committee report that two papers have been referred to them by the Assembly, namely:

1. One from T. C. Connelly, of Washington, D. C., calling attention to an alleged case of injustice on the part of a congregation in that city toward one of its members. No specific action by the Assembly is asked for, nor does it appear that the case is under the control of any ecclesiastical court. Congregations, acting through a Board of Trustees, are not as such responsible to the Presbyteries. It does not appear that any method has been resorted to, by the subscriber to this paper, to obtain justice from the civil or church courts; but, from the printed extract with which his paper is accompanied, it seems that an account of the whole case has been published in the newspapers. Such attempts to influence the public mind, before any scriptural or constitutional efforts at discipline have been resorted to, are an obvious violation of Christian courtesy and obligation. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the paper be returned to the subscriber, and the whole matter dismissed.

2. The other paper is an inquiry, proposed to the Assembly by Fisk Harmon, of Swede Point, Iowa, respecting a case of discipline which has occurred in what he calls the Presbytery of D——. A minister is said to have been deposed, and the sentence of deposition to have been pronounced, but his name was not ordered to be stricken from the Roll. The Clerk, however, assumed the [271] responsibility of erasing his name; and, when the case was appealed to the Synod, and remanded by it to the Presbytery that new evidence might be presented by the appellant, and the deposed minister demanded that his name might be replaced on the Roll before the Presby-

tery proceeded to the reception of the evidence, he was informed by the Moderator that his name did not belong there. The inquiry is: "Can this new sentence of striking the name of the deposed minister from the Roll be constitutionally inflicted without a new and regular trial?"

The Committee recommend the following reply:

As the name of every minister under trial must be properly on the Roll of some Presbytery, it should not be finally erased until the completion of all the ecclesiastical proceedings connected with the case. In the present instance, the Assembly decide that the name of the minister referred to should be restored to the Roll of the Presbytery, and retained until the case has been finally disposed of.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on Overture from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia as follows:

The following question was submitted to the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, at its fall meeting, for its consideration, namely:

"Isolated as a church may be, cut off from sister churches, having no ordained minister of the same Presbytery residing within forty miles, would it be competent for the elders, in the absence of the pastor, owing to the great inconvenience of procuring a Moderator, to meet and transact the ordinary business of the session, by organizing, without the presence of a minister of the Word, under Articles 3 and 4, Chapter IX., of the Form of Government?"

To this question the Presbytery replied in the negative.

Subsequently the Synod of Pennsylvania, to which the Presbytery belongs, was overtured for its ruling in the case, and reversed the decision of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery, believing that the ruling of the Synod establishes a precedent which may work to the injury of Presbyterian polity, and that the ruling of the Synod is contrary to the spirit and language of the Articles 3 and 4, Chapter IX., and believing that it is seldom impracticable, especially in our cities, to allow the presence of a minister in a session meeting, and believing that elders will not always be able to decide what "ordinary business" may be, and believing that ministers could equally as well consider it impracticable to convene their elders in sessional meeting; therefore, the Presbytery of the District of Columbia would respectfully overture the General Assembly through its Commissioner for its ruling in the case.

The Committee recommended the following response, which was adopted: [272]

The question proposed is limited to specified circumstances—namely, "In the absence of the pastor," and "the great inconvenience of procuring a Moderator," "having no ordained minister of the same Presbytery residing within forty miles."

The Form of Government, Chapter IX., section 3, provides, that, in "case of the sickness or absence of the pastor," another minister "belonging to the same Presbytery" may be invited "to preside." There is no provision for inviting any minister not "belonging to the same Presbytery," to preside over a meeting of the session, much less any minister of the Word.

Section 4 declares it to be "expedient at every meeting of the session, more especially when constituted for judicial business, that there be a presiding minister;" but, after providing for a Moderator, "where a church is without a pastor," and of course, in the case stated, section 3, it adds, "But where it is impracticable, without great inconvenience, to procure the attendance of such a Moderator, the session may proceed without it."

The Committee would, therefore, recommend that the answer to the Overture be: That, in cases similar to that stated, the session, under its responsibility to the Presbytery, is the judge of the impracticability of procuring a Moderator.

The same Committee reported on the reception of Ministers from Foreign Bodies. The report was accepted and placed on the docket.

The same Committee reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be instructed to institute inquiries among the several churches under their care, as to the number of their communicants; so that it may be ascertained, that the utmost care has been taken to clear their church registers of all deceased, dismissed, and lost members; and that it may thus be known what is the actual membership of each of their churches.

A communication from the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, proposing a National Council of Evangelical Denominations in the United States, was referred to the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., and Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and, in union with the General Assembly of the other branch, occupied an hour in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [273]

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Relief presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Ministerial Relief respectfully present the following report:

The annual report of the Executive Committee, which has been submitted to this Assembly, sets forth facts and views worthy of general and earnest consideration. Like other reports on the same subject, it appeals powerfully, not only to the benevolence of all the members of our Church, but to their sense of justice. It is encouraging to see, that the efforts to awaken an interest in this important object have not been in vain. We do not indeed wonder, that facts so undeniable, and considerations so heart-stirring, have led to an increase of the contributions at the rate of 28½ per cent. during the last year. Nor are we at all surprised, that, in a day of rapidly increasing wealth and beneficence, one man, Mr. Henry M. Schieffelin, has given the sum of $8200 as an addition to the Permanent Fund, and has sought to induce twenty-four others to join with him, in order to establish a permanent fund of $200,000. The merits of the cause need only to be pondered, to incite to a vastly greater increase of contributions—need but to be laid to heart by wealthy and good men, to move many to do as that one has done.

But let us thank God and take courage for the advancement actually made. Let us hope, that the time is at hand, when the services of men of trained and sanctified intellect, who labor in word and doctrine, shall not be at an enormous discount; when the self-denial of home missionaries and pastors, who have kept themselves in poverty, and have worn themselves out in carrying light and salvation into the dark places of our land, shall be appreciated. The American people are willing to provide for the wants of disabled soldiers and sailors, and for the wants of the widows and orphans of those who have died in their country's service. It is well. It would be unjust as well as unbecoming not to do so. Let a nation, saved from disruption and ruin, be grateful to those who have imperiled life and health to preserve it. But, in respect to all that is good and cheering in the institutions and hopes of this country, who have done more, or suffered more, than the ministers of Christ? Theirs it is, in self-impoverishment, to publish, and to urge upon souls, the words whose "entrance giveth light—giveth understanding unto the simple." Theirs it is to devote themselves wholly to a work, on which especially the Lord causes that civilization—that widely diffused combination of moral purity and intelligence—to wait, which alone can exalt a nation or save it from reproach and self-destruction. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." What is there in their work that should lead those who are enjoying, in a large degree, the benign temporal results of their labors, to treat them in poverty and sickness, or amid the in[274]firmities of age, as unworthy of a solacing, needful benefaction? Various things have tended to enhance the claims of this cause of late; especially the increased cost of living and the great falling off in the purchasing power of our currency. The salaries of the majority of our ministers—always inadequate—have for the last eight years been oppressively insufficient.

This cause has other bearings than its direct one on those for whom relief is now sought.

A practical depreciation of the work of the ministry, by our prosperous laymen, will have a disastrous influence on the minds of young men who are considering the question of becoming preachers of the Gospel. Not a few will be stumbled at the expectation of so great a difference of consecration, between ministers and other Christians who also covenant to be wholly the Lord's.

The Relief Fund is evidently managed with a wise economy. The persons relieved appear to be eminently worthy of aid and kind regard. And the extracts from the letters of some of them contained in the report of the Executive Committee, evince a delicacy of feeling, and an unwillingness to be a burden to others, fitted to excite a most respectful sympathy.

In conclusion, the Committee beg leave to invite the attention of all concerned, to the resolution of the Assembly of 1867, requesting pastors and stated supplies to preach on the subject of Ministerial Relief at an early day, and declaring "That it be considered the duty of every church to take an annual collection for this cause."

The Mileage Committee were instructed to pay the traveling expenses of the members of the late Reunion Committee.

The Standing Committees on Home Missions, on the Work among the Freedmen, on Church Erection, and on Education, severally presented their reports, which were accepted.

Pending the consideration of these reports,

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on the Narrative presented their report, which was adopted, and directed to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Rev. William Ormiston, D. D., the Delegate of the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, addressed the Assembly, and was responded to by the Moderator. [275]

The unfinished business of the morning, the consideration of the reports of the Standing Committees on Home Missions, Freedmen, Church Erection, and Education, was resumed. Pending their discussion,

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9¾ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 9¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Delegate to the Assemblies of the Free Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, presented a report, which was accepted. That part of the report which respects foreign correspondence was adopted, and the remainder placed on the docket.

The Mileage Committee, at their own request, were authorized to pay in full the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners entitled to be paid from the Fund.

The report of the Committee of Conference on the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, was presented, accepted, and considered until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Reunion was resumed, and continued until 5½ o'clock, when, by a rising vote, the Assembly unanimously adopted the report, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE.

The Committee of Conference appointed by the two General Assemblies have attended to the duty assigned to them; and, after a very free interchange of views, with prayer to Almighty God for his guidance, are unanimous in recommending to the Assemblies for their consideration, and, if they see fit, their adoption, the accompanying three papers, to wit:

1. Plan of Reunion of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; [276]
2. Concurrent Declarations of the General Assemblies of 1869; and
3. Recommendation of a Day of Prayer.

WILLIAM ADAMS, *Chairman,*

G. W. MUSGRAVE,	J. F. STEARNS,
A. G. HALL,	R. W. PATTERSON,
LYMAN H. ATWATER,	S. W. FISHER,
WILLIS LORD,	JAMES B. SHAW,
H. R. WILSON,	W. STRONG,
ROBERT CARTER,	DANIEL HAINES,
C. D. DRAKE,	WILLIAM E. DODGE,
WILLIAM M. FRANCIS,	J. S. FARRAND,
JOHN C. GRIER,	JOHN L. KNIGHT,

HENRY DAY, *Secretary.*

PLAN OF REUNION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Believing that the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom would be promoted by the healing of our divisions, and that the two bodies, bearing the same name, having the same Constitution, and each recognizing the other as a sound and orthodox body, according to the principles of the Confession common to both, cannot be justified by any but the most imperative reasons in maintaining separate, and, in some respects, rival organizations; we are now clearly of the opinion that the Reunion of those bodies ought, as soon as the necessary steps can be taken, to be accomplished, upon the basis hereinafter set forth:

1. The Presbyterian Churches in the United States of America, namely, that whose General Assembly convened in the Brick church in the city of New York, on the 20th day of May, 1869, and that whose General Assembly met in the church of the Covenant in the said city, on the same day, shall be reunited as one Church, under the name and style of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, possessing all the legal and corporate rights and powers pertaining to the Church previous to the division in 1838, and all the legal and corporate rights and powers which the separate Churches now possess.

2. The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical Basis of our common Standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity.

3. Each of the said Assemblies shall submit the foregoing Basis to its Presbyteries, which shall be required to meet on or [277] before the 15th day of October, 1869, to express their approval or disapproval of the same, by a categorical answer to the following question:

Do you approve of the Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the following Basis, namely: "The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common Standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity"?

Each Presbytery shall, before the 1st day of November, 1869, forward to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly with which it is connected, a statement of its vote on the said Basis of Reunion.

4. The said General Assemblies now sitting shall, after finishing their business, adjourn, to meet in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the second Wednesday of November, 1869, at eleven o'clock A. M.

If the two General Assemblies shall then find and declare, that the above-named Basis of Reunion has been approved by two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with each branch of the Church, then the same shall be of binding force, and the two Assemblies shall take action accordingly.

5. The said General Assemblies shall then and there make provision for the meeting of the General Assembly of the united Church on the third Thursday of May, 1870. The Moderators of the two present Assemblies shall jointly preside at the said Assembly of 1870 until another Moderator is chosen. The Moderator of the Assembly now sitting at the Brick church aforesaid shall, if present, put all votes, and decide questions of order; and the Moderator of the other Assembly shall, if present, preach the opening sermon; and the Stated Clerks of the present Assemblies shall act as Stated Clerks of the Assembly of the united Church, until a Stated Clerk or Clerks shall have been chosen thereby; and no Commissioner shall have a right to

vote or deliberate in said Assembly, until his name shall have been enrolled by the said Clerks, and his Commission examined and filed among the papers of the Assembly.

6. Each Presbytery of the separate Churches shall be entitled to the same representation in the Assembly of the united Church in 1870, as it is entitled to in the Assembly with which it is now connected. [278]

CONCURRENT DECLARATIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF 1869.

As there are matters pertaining to the interests of the Church when it shall have become re-united, which will manifestly require adjustment on the coming together of two bodies which have so long acted separately, and concerning some of which matters it is highly desirable that there should be a previous good understanding, the two Assemblies agree to adopt the following declarations, not as articles of compact or covenant, but as in their judgment proper and equitable arrangements, to wit:

1. All the ministers and churches embraced in the two bodies shall be admitted to the same standing in the united body, which they may have held in their respective connections, up to the consummation of the union.

2. Imperfectly organized churches are counseled and expected to become thoroughly Presbyterian, as early, within the period of five years, as may be permitted by the highest interests to be consulted; and no other such churches shall be hereafter received.

3. The boundaries of the several Presbyteries and Synods should be adjusted by the General Assembly of the united Church.

4. The official records of the two branches of the Church, for the period of separation, should be preserved and held as making up the one history of the Church; and no rule or precedent, which does not stand approved by both the bodies, should be of any authority, until re-established in the united body, except in so far as such rule or precedent may affect the rights of property founded thereon.

5. The corporate rights, now held by the two General Assemblies, and by their Boards and Committees, should, as far as practicable, be consolidated, and applied for their several objects, as defined by law.

6. There should be one set of Committees or Boards for Home and Foreign Missions, and the other religious enterprises of the Church; which the churches should be encouraged to sustain, though free to cast their contributions into other channels, if they desire to do so.

7. As soon as practicable after the union shall have been effected, the General Assembly should reconstruct and consolidate the several Permanent Committees and Boards, which now belong to the two Assemblies, so as to represent, as far as possible, with impartiality, the views and wishes of the two bodies constituting the united Church.

8. The publications of the Board of Publication and of the Publication Committee should continue to be issued as at present, leaving it to the Board of Publication of the united Church to revise these issues, and perfect a catalogue for the united Church so as to exclude invidious references to past controversies.

9. In order to a uniform system of ecclesiastical supervision, [279] those Theological Seminaries that are now under Assembly control may, if their Boards of Direction so elect, be transferred to the watch and care of one or more of the adjacent Synods; and the other Seminaries are advised to introduce, as far as may be, into their Constitutions, the principle of synodical or Assembly supervision; in which case, they shall be entitled to an official recognition and approbation on the part of the General Assembly.

10. It should be regarded as the duty of all our judicatories, ministers, and people in the united Church, to study the things which make for peace, and to guard against all needless and offensive references to the causes that have divided us; and, in order to avoid the revival of past issues, by the continuance of any usage in either branch of the Church that has grown out of former conflicts, it is earnestly recommended to the lower judicatories of the Church that they conform their practice in relation to all such usages, as far as is consistent with their convictions of duty, to the general custom of the Church prior to the controversies that resulted in the separation.

Recommendation of a Day of Prayer.

That the counsels of Infinite Wisdom may guide our decisions, and the blessing of the Great Head of the Church rest upon the result of our efforts for Reunion, it is earnestly recommended to the churches throughout both branches of the Presbyterian Church, that they observe the second Sabbath in September, 1869, as a day of fervent and united prayer to Almighty God, that he would grant unto us all "the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord," and, in the new relations now contemplated, enable us to "keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace."

The Assembly then united in singing part of the 102d Psalm, and were led in thanksgiving by the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.

The Hon. William Strong and Rev. William Adams, D. D., were deputed to inform the General Assembly, now in session at the Brick church, that the report of the Joint Committee of Conference with reference to the Reunion of the two bodies, has been unanimously adopted by this Assembly.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and, in union with the General Assembly of the other branch, occupied an hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [280]

A preamble and resolutions adopted by the other General Assembly, with reference to the state of feeling between this country and Great Britain, was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the Pope of Rome, called Pius the Ninth, did, on the 13th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1868, issue a certain letter or proclamation addressed to "all Protestants and non-Catholics" throughout the world, the import of which is to invite and urge all persons and organizations thus designated to "hasten to return to the only fold," meaning the Church of Rome; and,

Whereas, the said Pope, in the said letter, called "paternal and apostolic," has, in an unwonted manner, as if pleading at the bar of public opinion, assigned several and various reasons for its preparation and publication; and,

Whereas, among the reasons so mentioned is the assertion of his own supremacy over the human conscience as the "Vicar of Jesus Christ,"—"the authority to govern the persuasions of the human intellect, and to direct the actions of men, both in private and social life;" as also this, that the rejection of this authority and protest against it by so many have "promoted and nourished those perturbations in human affairs in this our day," which the said Pope pronounces "miserable and grievous," but which must be regarded by every friend of his species as eminently hopeful and auspicious; and,

Whereas, all such claims and assertions on the part of the Pope of Rome are, to the last degree, unfounded in fact, contrary to truth, reason, scripture, and the whole genius of Christianity, and, if allowed, would prove subversive of all human rights and liberties; and,

Whereas, recent movements, especially in Austria and Spain—nations long in subjection to these monstrous pretensions of the Papacy—command the prompt recognition, sympathy, and support of all friends of humanity, freedom, and religion throughout the world: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the facts now recorded furnish and present a proper and fitting occasion for all Protestant Churches throughout Christendom, each in the mode which its own wisdom shall suggest, to prepare and set forth for general distribution, through the same channels which the Pope himself has chosen, a suitable response to his letter; which response shall contain a statement of the reasons why his claims can in no wise be recognized; as being inconsistent with a catholicity more catholic than Rome, the authority of infallible Scripture, and the glorious supremacy of Jesus Christ.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by this Assembly, whose duty it shall be, in co-operation with a similar Committee to be appointed by the General Assembly, now meeting at the [281] Brick church, to nominate and appoint, at the earliest time which is convenient, a Committee of Ten, who, if they deem it wise, shall prepare and publish such a reply, to the said letter of the Pope, as shall be regarded as expressive of the sentiments of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, concerning the matters therein contained, as of vital importance to all civil and religious liberty throughout the world, and to the salvation of the human race.

The Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Caleb Mills, LL.D., and Mr. Daniel W. Ingersoll, were appointed the *Committee* named in the last resolution.

The Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., and Mr. Robert Carter, appeared on behalf of the General Assembly of the other branch, and announced that the report of the Joint Committee of Conference had been (almost unanimously) adopted by that body.

The Rev. Charles Brown, Secretary of the Ministerial Relief Committee, addressed the Assembly in behalf of that Committee.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported the following question:

Will the Committee on Church Polity consider the question of an amendment to the Standing Rules of the General Assembly, touching the reception of foreign ministers, so as to except from the application of these rules ministers coming directly from well-known charges or positions, and bringing satisfactory testimonials, where the Presbyteries into which they are to be received have previously signified their approval of the transfer from fields abroad to fields within their bounds?

The Committee recommend as an answer to this question, that so much of the regulations and provisions relative to the reception of foreign ministers (see Digest, p. 117) as regards the probation through which such ministers must pass, before the Presbytery come to a final judgment of their reception, may, at the option of any Presbytery, be waived in those cases in which the transfer is directly from a Presbytery in correspondence with this Assembly, and in which cases the approval of the transfer by such Presbytery has been previously signified.

The Presbytery receiving such a minister is strictly enjoined to make a careful record of all the facts in the case.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported an Overture of three elders, members of this Assembly, asking that some action be taken with reference to providing ministerial labor for unemployed ministers, and services in vacant churches. The Committee recommend that the paper be referred to a Special Committee of five to report to the next General Assembly. The report was adopted, and the following Committee was appointed: Rev. [282] Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D.

The same Committee reported the following Overture from the Commissioners of the Presbytery of Grand River Valley:

A minister belonging to the Presbytery of Grand River Valley, now editing a paper and not preaching, on account of throat difficulty, was solicited to accept the office of elder, by the First Presbyterian church of Grand Haven, Mich., was elected unanimously, accepted the office, and entered on his duties. The Presbytery, in reviewing the Records, declared it was irregular, but did nothing more. The pastor of said church brought the matter before the session, and, after considering the case, the session did nothing. This brother not being able to preach, and over 60 years of age, accepted the office of ruling elder, because he was willing to work in the vineyard of the Lord in a more humble capacity, but has not resigned the ministerial office, holding still his place as a member of the Presbytery of Grand River Valley.

The Committee recommended for answer, a reference to the report of the Special Committee on this subject, made to the Assembly of 1865, and found in the Minutes for that year, pp. 13–14.*

The report was adopted.

The Committee on communicating with "the Grand Army of the Republic" reported a paper which was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church takes great pleasure in acknowledging the invitation of the Kings County Department of the Grand Army of the Republic to attend and take part in the ceremony of decorating the graves of our dead soldiers on Monday next.

It gives us great pleasure to observe that this ceremony is not to take place on the Sabbath; and we recommend that as many of the members of the Assembly, as can be spared from their other duties, shall engage in offering this beautiful and appropriate tribute of patriotic memory and love.

Your Committee recommend that this paper be communicated to the Kings County Department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Chairman of that Committee was requested to communicate this action to the representatives of the Grand Army.

The Rev. Elijah D. Murphy, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, addressed the Assembly in behalf of the New York Port Society.

Resolved, That, with the concurrent action of the other Assem[283]bly, a Committee, consisting of the Joint Committee of Conference on Reunion, together with the Moderators of the two Assemblies, be appointed to prepare and send down to the Presbyteries and churches a Pastoral Letter in reference to the momentous question of reunion now submitted to their decision.

Resolved, That this Assembly does hereby submit to the Presbyteries in connection with it the Basis of Reunion adopted May 27th, 1869; and that the Presbyteries be required to meet on or before October 15th, 1869, to express their approval or disapproval of the same by a categorical answer to the following question:

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* Reprint, p. 327.

Do you approve of the Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the following Basis, namely: "The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity"?

Resolved, That each Presbytery shall, before the first day of November, 1869, forward to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly a statement of its vote on the said Basis of reunion.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to print as many copies of the above Overture as may be needed.

Adjourned to meet with the other Assembly, in a joint communion service, at the Brick church, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 28th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met at the Brick Presbyterian church, and united with the Assembly now in session at that church in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

After the service, in accordance with previous order,

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 8¾ o'clock. [284]

Saturday, May 29th, 8¾ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Conference on Reunion reported the communication from a joint meeting of the Committees appointed by several Presbyterian bodies, at the request of a Convention held at Philadelphia, November, 1867, recommending that the Committee appointed in behalf of this Assembly (Minutes 1868, p. 59) be continued. The report was adopted.

On the recommendation of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly (p. 53) to memorialize Congress respecting the appointment of army and navy chaplains, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed to confer with such Committees as may be designated by other ecclesiastical bodies on the subject of chaplains in the army and navy, and endeavor to secure such action from Congress as, in their judgment, may be best.

The Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., the Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., Hon. William E. Dodge, and Mr. Edward Miller were appointed such Committee.

Pastor Ludwig B. Kaspar and Upper Church Counselor Hermann Von Tardy, a Deputation from the Bohemian Reformed Church, addressed the Assembly, and were responded to by the Moderator.

The subject-matter of the addresses of the deputation was referred for consideration and report to a Committee consisting of Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., and Hon. William Strong.

The Mileage Committee presented their report, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Mileage of Commissioners beg leave to report:

That they have received for Commissioners' Fund		$12,031.99
" " " " " Contingent Fund		88.82
		$12,120.81
They have audited bills for the necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners amounting to	$7941.00	
For contingent expenses	2100.00	
" incidental expenses of this Committee	12.57	
		$10,053.57
Balance		$2,067.24

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Ninety-eight Presbyteries have paid their assessment in full, including three Presbyteries who paid at the rate of six cents per member, through ignorance of the increase in the rate of assessment, and nine Presbyteries who paid according to their present number of members, some of their churches having withdrawn from their watch and care.

Eight Presbyteries have paid but a part of their assessment—namely: Champlain, Troy, Onondaga, Tioga, Lyons, North River, Huron, and St. Joseph.

Six Presbyteries have paid a small amount to the Contingent Fund only—namely, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Chenango, Meadville, and Franklin.

One Presbytery has paid nothing—namely, San Francisco, and is not represented in the Assembly.

Having received a sufficient amount of money from the Presbyteries, and having been granted the requisite authority by the Assembly, your Committee have paid the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners entitled thereto, in full.

While showing in the above statement a considerable surplus, above what is needed for the expenses of this Assembly, your Committee, in view of the necessary, constantly increasing expenditures, year by year, cannot. however, recommend a reduction of the rate of assessment from eight cents to six cents, as has been asked for by some of the Presbyteries.

To provide for the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners of this Assembly to the adjourned session to be held at Pittsburgh, Pa., in November next, your Committee would recommend the appropriation of the surplus now on hand, as shown above, and that a special assessment be made, on our churches, of four cents per member. for that purpose.

Your Committee would further recommend, that the compensation of the Stated Clerk of this Assembly be increased to two hundred dollars per annum, and that of the Permanent Clerk to one hundred dollars per annum.

The thanks of the Assembly were given to the Mileage Committee for their patient and faithful attention to the duties entrusted to them.

The Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., and the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

The Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, D. D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the Evangelical Alliance in the United States. In connection with these addresses, the Assembly

Resolved. That the principles of the Protestant Reformation, identified as they are with the progress of religious liberty, education, and Christianity in the earth, are increasingly precious in our eyes, and we call upon our ministers and people to watch with [286] jealous care the progress of Romanism in the United States, and by the employment of all suitable means to resist the insidious efforts of Roman Catholics to obtain control in this country.

Resolved, That this Assembly has heard, with great satisfaction, the intelligence that the Evangelical Alliance of the United States has invited a conference of evangelical Christians of this country to meet at the city of New York the ensuing autumn, and a general conference of all evangelical Christians in all the world to assemble at the same city of New York in the autumn of 1870; and it will unite its prayers with those of Christ's people everywhere, that the Holy Spirit may guide their counsels, and lead to wise results for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

The following telegram was received from the Synod of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists:

"NEWARK, OHIO, May 28th, 1869.

"To the General Assemblies of the Old and New School Presbyterians, meeting in the city of New York.

"The Synod of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists greet the brethren, 2d Thessalonians 1 : 3, 4, and 2d Corinthians 13 : 11th and 13th verses.

"E. T. EVANS, *Moderator*.
"DAVID HARRIES, *Secretary*."

The following reply was adopted:

The General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, now sitting at the city of New York, jointly return their cordial and Christian salutations to the Synod of Calvinistic Methodists, now sitting at the city of Newark, Ohio, and express to them our best wishes and desires, in the words of Moses to Hobab—Numbers 10 : 29.

The Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the National Temperance Society.

The Rev. Wm. W. Atterbury and Mr. Norman White addressed the Assembly in behalf of the New York Sabbath Committee.

A communication was received from the other General Assembly, stating that the resolution from this body in reference to the preparation of a Pastoral Letter on Reunion had been immediately adopted by that body.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries be instructed to insert the address of vacant churches in their annual Statistical Report to the General Assembly.

On the recommendation of the same Committee, it was

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to the minis[287]ters in their connection to deposit copies of their occasional publications, including historical discourses, theological essays, etc., in the libraries of our Theological Seminaries, and in the library of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Hon. Daniel Haines and the Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., were appointed to prepare and report a minute for the instruction of the Presbyteries, with reference to any change in their representation, at the adjourned meeting of this Assembly.

The Committee on supplying Presbyterian worship in the chief cities of Europe reported, that, as instructed, they have conferred with the American and Foreign Christian Union, and have learned that this Society, because of its exclusive missionary character, cannot undertake the enterprise. The Committee have not been able to hear of any other American agency, through which the desired objects can be secured; and, as they deem it inexpedient for the Assembly itself to undertake it, they recommend that the Free Church of Scotland, from whom the proposal was received, be respectfully informed, that the Assembly do not see their way clear to co-operate with them in this enterprise.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Nominations recommended the following as Delegates to Corresponding Bodies:

1. *General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Isaac Emory, of the Presbytery of Union, principal; and Rev. Nathan Bachman, of the Presbytery of Holston, alternate.
2. *General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America*—Rev. E. Perkins Pratt, D. D., of the Presbytery of Scioto, principal; and Rev. George M. Maxwell, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.
3. *Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church*—Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., principal; and Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., alternate, both of the Presbytery of Buffalo.
4. *General Synod of the Reformed Church in America*—Rev. Peter Stryker, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Richard H. Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.
5. *General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in* [288] *North America*—Rev. Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; and Rev. Joseph Chester, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.
6. *General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States*—Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, alternate.
7. *General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States*—Rev. Edward D. Morris, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, principal; and Rev. James L. Robertson, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, alternate.
8. *General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine*—Rev. Charles S. Dunning, of the Presbytery of Montrose, principal; and Rev. Augustus Seward, D. D., of the Presbytery of Hudson, alternate.
9. *General Association of New Hampshire*—Rev. John W. Mears, D. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. George A. Howard, of the Presbytery of Catskill, alternate.
10. *General Convention of Vermont*—Rev. Theodore S. Brown, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal; and Rev. George T. Everest, of the Presbytery of Champlain, alternate.
11. *General Association of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts*—Rev. William Aikman, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, principal; and Rev. Thomas Street, of the Presbytery of New York, Third, alternate.
12. *General Association of Connecticut*—Rev. William E. Moore, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, principal; and Rev. John Patton, D. D., of the Presbytery of Wilmington, alternate.
13. *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*—Rev. Arthur Mitchell, of the Presbytery of Chicago, principal; and Rev. Warren Mayo, of the Presbytery of Columbus, alternate.

The report was adopted.

On recommendation of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

The Committee on Bills and Overtures recommend the passage of the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The Presbytery of Newark have commenced an institution, located in the City of Newark, under the direction of a Board of Trustees annually appointed by them, for the education of young men for the ministry among the Germans, called "The German Theological School of the Presbytery of Newark;" and,

Whereas, such an enterprise is demanded by the interests of the Church generally, and will require their co-operation in order to its success: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Assembly recommend this institution to the Presbyteries and churches under their care, and request them [289] to further its objects, by seeking and sending to it such young men within their bodies as may be approved by the Presbyteries or their Committees, furnishing funds at the same time for their support.

Written reports were presented from the Rev. Rollin A. Sawyer, Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Delegate to the General Conference of the Congregational Churches of Maine, and the Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

The Committee on the Bohemian Deputation presented their report in the form of resolutions, which were adopted, and are as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly, having listened with great gratification to the statements made by the deputation from the Bohemian Reformed Church, cordially commend the brethren, Rev. Hermann Von Tardy and Rev. Ludwig B. Kaspar, to the love and kindness of the pastors and churches within their bounds, and bespeak for the Church which they represent the active sympathies and pecuniary aid of all who desire to assist a reviving ancient sister Church, in acquiring strength and enlargement, throughout a land memorable for its struggles and martyrdoms in the cause of the Reformation.

Resolved, 2. That the Committee, to whom is intrusted the business of appointing Delegates to Foreign Bodies, be instructed to take special pains to secure, next year, a delegation to the Bohemian Reformed Church, and, in default thereof, to write and send an address to that Church, expressive of our pleasure at the visit of their deputation, and of our interest in the communication that they have made to us.

Resolved, 3. That the Assembly recommend the publication of the report of the deputation in all the religious papers connected with it.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly earnestly commend the brethren from Bohemia, and the cause that they represent, to the cordial recognition and support of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

Resolved, 5. That the Moderator and Stated Clerk of this body be instructed to furnish the deputation with a circular letter, introducing them to such pastors and churches as they may desire to visit while in this country.

Resolved, 6. That a Committee of three be appointed, to render such assistance to these brethren, in the prosecution of their work in this country, as may be best adapted to this purpose.

The Rev. Robert Russell Booth, D. D., the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., and Hon. William E. Dodge were appointed the *Committee* named in the above report. [290]

The Special Committee on the recommendation of a National Council of Evangelical Churches presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Recognizing this proposal as a part of the great movement of our day, which is seeking better to express the essential unity of the Church of Christ, and to bring about that organic unity toward which we have just taken so important a step, we regard it as one eminently fitting to be entertained. So manifestly does the favor of God rest upon all such efforts, that we dare not even seem to stand in opposition. That favor has been shown in the outpouring of the Spirit upon the joint efforts of Christians in revivals of religion. Our own hearts have here felt most convincingly the influences of that Spirit, when in joint supplications for the Reunion of our separated Presbyterian family. Mutual love and confidence fill the hearts of believers. The spirit of wisdom seems to be imparted to our councils for Reunion, and from all branches of the Church the prayer is going up for a speedy realization of that oneness for which our Redeemer prayed. And when God so manifestly points the way, and opens the path where was a sea of difficulties before, it is for His people to go forward.

Great good may also result from the adoption of some such plan. In a common profession of the essentials of our common faith; in the promotion of wholesome discipline, and mutual co-operation therein; in devising measures of practical evangelism; in borrowing life from every part, and in diffusing it through all the members of the common body; in presenting a common front to a common foe; in such prospects of vast good accomplished, we see a motive for acceding to the proposal submitted. Therefore,

Resolved, That five representatives of this body, three ministers and two laymen, be appointed to meet similar representatives from other bodies on the third Tuesday of October, in the city of New York, provided the higher judicatories and Assemblies of sister Churches accede to the proposal.

The Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., Hon. William Strong, and Hon. Daniel Haines were appointed the *Committee* above named.

The Committee on Instructing the Presbyteries concerning their representation at the adjourned meeting of this Assembly presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, It has been questioned, whether this Assembly at the proposed adjourned meeting, in November next, at Pittsburgh, Pa., can be properly constituted of the principal or alternate Commissioners, not in attendance on the sessions of the body at this time; therefore,

Resolved, In the judgment of the Assembly, those Commissioners only who have presented their Commissions, and whose [291] names have been placed on the Roll, will be entitled to participate in the meeting of the Assembly in November, except in case of a vacancy, occasioned by death, resignation, refusal, or inability of any such Commissioner to attend, in which event it will be competent and proper for the Presbytery to supply the vacancy by a new election or appointment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31*st*, 2½ *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions was adopted, and is as follows:

The considerations laid open by the report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions are almost bewildering in their magnitude and importance. We can do them but faint justice. Our suggestions must be like those required on a mountain top, as to the details of engineering, while one is still overwhelmed by the grandeur of the view. We attempt the duty assigned to us, however, confining ourselves as far as possible to the points of the Committee's report, in their order.

National Development.

The call of Providence upon the Church is, Enterprise for Christ. Enterprise for commerce throbs in every vein of American society. Enterprise for Christ must throb in every vein of the Church. The gold and the silver are His. The golden spike, and the silver hammer which drove it to its place beside the last rail of the Pacific road were consecrated to Him by prayer. The commerce of the country must be subsidized by the Church, and used for God's glory. The world must not outshine the Church in its achievements. Its machinery must be used by the Church as fast as it is erected, for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom.

Immigration.

This is declared to be largely and increasingly Protestant in its character. There is both hope and impulse in this declaration; hope, because of its prophecy as against Rome; impulse, because of the duty implied as to Protestantism. Statistics would seem to prove that this is to be, as it always has been, a Protestant land. But statistics are not wholly safe. Rome calculates on [292] success in America on other grounds than that of numbers. She relies on organization, on political ascendency through her unification, on a reaction from the materialism of our civilization, on a recoil from our national individualism. Her logic is, first, Protestantism, then infidelity, then refuge in her bosom. Already she hears, out of the heart of a Protestant Church, the cry that Protestantism is a failure, and the comment that the last three centuries constitute the dark ages of Christendom. So far, then, as immigration brings rationalism and infidelity to our shores, so far Rome welcomes it as in her interest. The two great types of nominal Christianity in America to-day are, ecclesiasticism, with its organic and life-giving Church, on the one hand, and individualism, with its personal relations to the Triune God, on the other. It is needless to say which type Presbyterianism represents. But Presbyterianism should not be blind to the dangers which beset its individualism, or to the expectations which are cherished by the ecclesiasticism to which it is opposed. The Presbyterian Church now occupies a most advantageous position, as between the upper and lower classes of society, able to reach the most intelligent and the least; able to reach those who would have most heart in their religion, and those who would have a creed most crystal clear. Its duty is, to provide all that is most helpful in church organization; all that is most satisfactory to those looking into the perfect law of liberty. It must welcome the converted Romanist to a better Church than he leaves, and convince the rationalist that he can find that rest in Christ which he can never find in philosophy. Its hand and heart should therefore be open to every emigrant who comes to our shores.

As to that new element in our immigration which comes eastward from China, our duty appears for the present to be, to watch and wait. Religious effort can soon be made to great advantage among the Chinamen of California. They are fast becoming affected by American civilization. They adopt our dress, they cut off their hair, which is like severing ancestral ties. They begin to be ashamed of being counted idolaters. Their rich men are giving up many of the tenets of their religious faith. They are accessible and teachable. In all the large towns of California, Sunday-schools for Chinamen are successfully conducted by Protestant denominations. At present, a missionary of the Foreign Board of the other branch of our Church is laboring among them with marked success. He should have our sympathy and our moral support. Very soon others should enter the field beside him.

THE WEST.

Where is it? The question flies across the continent without an answer. The vast spaces it traverses, however, demand our most earnest attention.

The report of the Permanent Committee says, we want only the young and the strong for occupants of this field. But where are they to be found? Our theological semi[293]naries furnish scarcely enough men to occupy the more important of the vacant parishes on the Atlantic slope. Oh! for some seed, better but not less vital than dragon's teeth, to sow!

FEEBLE CHURCHES IN THE EAST.

They must not be permitted to absorb any great portion of the slender streams which flow from our Seminaries. If young men only or chiefly are wanted in the so-called West, the feeble churches of the East must be encouraged to employ those still vigorous but older workers, now marked by the melancholy initials "W. C.," and who would gladly occupy their pulpits.

CITY EVANGELIZATION.

This includes the Christianizing of the rich as well as of the poor. If there are heathen in the lanes, there are heathen on the stately avenues also. We have, therefore, no words of condemnation for large and costly churches. Nor have we for large and wealthy organizations. They are necessary, both for the reaching of the wealthier class, and for gaining their riches for Christ. Our work cannot be carried on without money, and culture, and all such machinery of influence as is wielded by large churches in our cities.

Nor would we commend such a rapid church extension in any city as would deplete churches now strong, or fill spaces with feeble organizations, while two or three flourishing churches might practically occupy the same ground. That some strong men should go from the larger churches to fortify all new enterprises, we indeed believe; all care should be taken that each new church is a strong one, having at least all the vital elements of growth and prosperity.

The larger churches in our cities should also, in planting mission-schools, have especial reference to their development into churches. They should combine for the purpose of church extension, giving none the less to this general object through our Assembly's Committee, but concentrating all their wisdom, and laying under tribute their wealth, for common interests. A Presbyterian League already exists in at least one of our large cities.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR.

Four hundred and sixty-two missionaries have been under appointment during the year. Two thousand four hundred conversions are reported as taking place under the ministry of three hundred and thirty-two of them—an average of about seven to a missionary.

The funds received from all quarters amount to $162,421. The number of our church-members in 1868 was 168,932. The amount gathered, therefore, from our whole Church, for the cause of Domestic Missions was less than one dollar per member. Too large a proportion of our churches give nothing to this object. [294]

What Must be Done.

Your Committee recommend:

1. That pastors and elders be requested to impress their churches anew with the magnitude of the work before us; and that to this end a prominent place be given to Home Missions in the Monthly Concert.

2. That the chronic want of more funds be so pressed upon all our churches and Sunday-schools—many of which have already done nobly—that the poorest shall not refuse to give out of their poverty one dollar per member. Shame!

3. That to render the missionary work less unattractive to young men, the standard of salary be kept at the highest reasonable point.

4. That Presbyteries be desired to appoint Committees of Supply, whose duty it shall be to find ministers for their vacant churches, and pulpits for their unemployed ministers.

5. That the establishment of mission-schools in cities be encouraged, so far as that may promote the spread of Protestant principles among the children of Romanists, and the ultimate formation of Protestant churches.

6. As to the Overture referred to us respecting mission-work among the Chinese emigrants, we recommend that no action be taken this year, further than to express our conviction of the importance of this work.

7. That so far as the conduct of labor among the Freedmen is concerned, the Assembly entrust the work to a Sub-committee of the Home Mission Committee; or, as suggested last year, to the direction of some competent person, to be selected by the Home Mission Committee.

8. That the office of the Associate Secretary, now residing in Philadelphia, be dissolved; and that the Committee be directed to appoint a proper District Secretary for the State of Pennsylvania, and neighboring States, at the discretion of the Committee.

9. That the following persons, whose term of service expires with this Assembly, be appointed for the usual term, namely: Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Edward W. French, Rev. John DeWitt, Mr. George R. Lockwood, and Mr. Walter Edwards, the latter in the place of Alfred C. Post, M. D., declining a re-election.

We cannot close this report without adverting to the possibility that our whole work as a Church may soon undergo important modification by reunion with that branch of the Church from which we have been so long severed. By such reunion, the cause of Domestic Missions ought to be greatly promoted. The tide now setting should be caught in its flow, and made to turn many a useful wheel, rather than come in with grand but idle music.

If Reunion is harmoniously effected, we anticipate new life and [295] usefulness for our beloved Church. It will present a noble example of organic power, proceeding from a well-compacted system, based upon a creed and a polity unsurpassed, and quickened by the personal relations of our members to the strengthening Christ.

It is already no longer needed that one cry, as in the third watch, or the fourth watch, "What of the night?" The morning has come. The light gilds innumerable spires; it reveals also innumerable wastes. Our cry is, "What of the day?" And the answer is, "To your tents, O Israel!" "Ephraim shall not envy Judah; and Judah shall not vex Ephraim!" "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations. Spare not; lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

The report of the Standing Committee on Freedmen was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions pertaining to the work among the Freedmen, respectfully report as follows:

They rejoice to find that the great work to which the Church was summoned by the last Assembly, and which those in charge of our missionary operations were then urged to carry boldly and swiftly forward, is fairly and successfully begun.

Your Committee, in common, no doubt, with all who have given any degree of attention to the situation and claims of the Freedmen, look with wonder and regret at the strange delay with which we were chargeable, as a Church, in entering upon a field of missionary labor whose claims were so peculiarly urgent and sacred, and which was at the same time, in all its aspects, so hopeful. But we rejoice that an earnest beginning has been made; that the work has now been wisely planned and thoroughly organized; that the call, loud and unmistakable, has been sent out over the length and breadth of the Church to bring in her offerings for the cause, and that already seven ordained missionaries and nearly one hundred teachers are in the field, pushing forward their work with energy, and with the evident blessing of God; while many other laborers are now under appointment, and every month is witnessing the enlargement of the contributions, and the extension of the labors which have been so energetically and hopefully begun.

Nearly every other denomination of evangelical Christians is in advance of us, in respect both to the promptness and the liberality with which they have entered upon this work of educating and evangelizing the Freedmen.

This remark applies, of course, only to our action as a Church; for, from the very first hour that opportunity was offered, the [296] Christian people in our New School Presbyterian churches have been contributing largely to this cause. Their gifts, however, have hitherto been placed at the disposal of numberless societies, working, some of them, directly in the interest of other denominations, and others working without supervision by any evangelical denomination whatever.

Probably almost every pastor in our body can testify, as those of your Committee certainly can, that no object, especially for the last four years, has enlisted such a quick and hearty sympathy in the bosoms of the people as the elevation and the thorough evangelization of the Freedmen. In some of our churches, as many as three or four collections, in the course of the year, have been cheerfully given for this cause. No other cause would have borne such a frequent presentation, and been met with such an unwearied and substantial welcome to the last. A word for the Freedmen has always been answered quickly and generously.

No step could have been taken by the Assembly more wise, and more fortunate, than the organization of a plan which shall turn upon the wheels of our own work this stream of generous and cheerful bounty. The day of desultory and scattered effort, we hope, has closed. Let the strength of the Church be concentrated. Let all the gifts of all our churches, in behalf of the Freedmen, be placed at the disposal of that veteran Missionary Committee whom we know and trust, and under whom so much has been accomplished in the evangelization of the populous North and West, and a new era will have begun in the work of missions to the Freedmen.

The Standing Committee desire to call particular attention to this point, and urge every pastor within our bounds to do his utmost, not only to secure contributions in behalf of the Freedmen, but to induce the donors to pour their gifts into that channel prepared and recommended by our branch of the Church. A column will be found in the next Minutes of the General Assembly, set apart particularly for a record of our contributions to this object; and, while we would not lessen, in the least degree, the zeal or the resources of any other evangelical denomination engaged in this work, but rather bid them "go forward" in God's name, we feel that the time has fully come for the New School Presbyterian Church to do something in behalf of the emancipated slaves, which shall be seen by the world to be correspondent with her wealth, her heart, and her history.

It is not strange, perhaps, that, during the past year, but a very few of our churches have contributed to the Freedmen's Fund of the Committee. The rank and file of our membership hardly know as yet what an enterprise has been begun. They have not learned of the vastness of its outline, nor of the completeness of its organization. It is hoped that the pastors will now acquaint their churches fully with these facts. One hundred and eighty-nine only of the more than 1600 churches of our body contributed last year to this cause—less than one-eighth of the whole; $15,000 [297] being the total of the receipts, and even this including sums of considerable importance contributed by the Freedmen's Bureau, benevolent persons in Great Britain, and others.

The Permanent Committee, in accordance with the instructions of the last General Assembly, have combined, so far as practicable, in their efforts for the Freedmen, both evangelism and education. They have been sending out ordained missionaries, by whom churches have been gathered and organized, some of which, on the 11th of the present month, (May, 1869,) were organized into "the Presbytery of South Carolina." But they are also sending out Christian teachers, both men and women, who are devoting themselves, in the true missionary spirit, to the work of instruction. Other societies, perceiving the advantages possessed by the Permanent Committee for a reliable prosecution and a permanent support of the work of education among the Freedmen, are already turning over their schools in large numbers to the Committee, while new schools are being opened continually by their own agents and missionaries.

In the judgment of the Standing Committee, the great want of the Freedmen to-day is a supply of competent pastors and teachers from their own midst and of their own race. The free admission of colored young men to all our Colleges and Seminaries will do much to enlarge the number of candidates for the ministry from that race; and the early establishment of normal schools in the Southern States can very soon raise up a large and competent corps of teachers. Your Committee entertain the hope that efforts will be made to secure both these ends.

They would also suggest that a certain portion of the pages of the *Presbyterian Monthly* be set apart, for the purpose of conveying to our churches full information and earnest appeals with regard to this branch of our missionary work.

It was recommended to the Assembly last year by the Standing Committee on Home Missions, in view of the necessities of a vigorous prosecution of this department of our work, that the Permanent Committee be authorized to employ an "Assistant Secretary." The prospect already opening before us, of the very rapid extension of our work among the Freedmen, certainly the intrinsic importance of the work, and the efforts which should be made to arouse and direct the Christian enthusiasm of all our churches, cause your Committee to feel that this provision for an Assistant Secretary only is likely to be misinterpreted, and to be insufficient; and they recommend that the executive officer of this department of our Home Missions be known as "the Secretary for the Freedmen;" it being understood, that the work which he is called to superintend takes its place fully abreast of the largest and most important schemes which we are carrying forward as a Church for the evangelization of the world.

In conclusion, we most earnestly press once more upon the attention of the Assembly the vastness, and sacredness, and especially the hopefulness of the work, which we are called to under[298]take in behalf of the Freedmen. A more hopeful field for missionary effort is not to be found on the face of the globe than that among these millions of emancipated slaves.

Scarcely more than one-tenth of them are reached, as yet, by all the agencies which are combined for their elevation. It is estimated that nearly 2,000,000 are still unable to read.

They are in sad need; but they are conscious of it, and eager, intensely eager, for the blessings we propose to send. They wait for our evangelists and our Christian teachers. In them, Ethiopia is already in prayer stretching out her hands unto God. Your Committee beg leave to suggest to the Assembly, therefore, that it shall recommend, and urge upon the churches to raise during the coming year no less a sum than $100,000 for the purpose of carrying forward, not feebly, but boldly, swiftly, and vigorously, the work of educating and evangelizing the Freedmen.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Erection was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the fifteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and also Overtures from the Synod of Iowa and the Presbytery of Iowa City, respectfully report:

The facts exhibited and the suggestions made commend themselves to the thoughtful consideration of the Assembly.

Three things are put luminously before us by the facts of the report:

1. That the general regulations for the disposition of the fund are judicious, and comprehensive of the widest usefulness.

2. That the Church at large is by no means yet in full and intelligent sympathy with this cause of Church Erection.

3. That the present need of largely increased appropriations is pressing and imperative.

As to the general regulations for the disposition of the Fund, they are these: That the grant should complete the church edifice, and leave it free from debt; that the grant in every case should be secured to the denomination by reversionary lien; that the congregation thus helped should take up an annual collection for the cause of Church Erection. The wisdom of these regulations is too clear for question. The first is a constant stimulus to the best effort, and most promptly secures the completed structure. The second is simply a reasonable safeguard against possible transfer of denominational connection. The third adds so many churches each year to the list of contributors to the treasury of the Board.

As to the vital interests dependent on a vigorous prosecution of our Church Erection work, it is manifest that the Church at large has no thorough comprehension of them, from the fact that one thousand one hundred and sixty-three churches have not given one dollar to this work during the last year. Thus more than a thou[299]sand of our churches have gone through the year as if no Church Erection cause were on our list. Worse than this. In four out of the five cases where direct applications were made for a hearing for this cause, there has been returned by the pastors of our churches either a positive refusal or no answer. This is a reproach and a shame. It is shutting the door in the face of a grave responsibility. It betrays either most lamentable ignorance, or most censurable indifference.

As to the pressing necessity of greatly increased appropriations, the facts speak with emphasis. The average amount given to each church the past year has been about $475. This makes it simply impossible for many of our homeless congregations, whose need is really the most imperative, and yet whose resources are the most straitened, to arise and build. The meagre offer of the Board is so far below the necessity of the unhoused flock, that it operates as a discouragement rather than a stimulus. Then again, if it be true, as stated, that there are single Synods where the entire $46,000 given to Church Erection could be judiciously invested, what a beggarly thing we are doing in attempting to meet, with that same sum, the wants of twelve or fifteen great States!

What is needed, therefore, with respect to contributions to this cause, is,

1st. Universality. The source of supply should be limited only by the number of our churches. This object should be down in every list of benevolences. We should wipe out the reproach of ignoring, by four-fifths of our denomination, a cause so vitally connected with the efficient prosecution of our evangelistic work.

2d. Regularity. Once down on the list of benevolent causes, every church should give it the same conscientious heed that is given to Home and Foreign Missions. Now, it is far otherwise. Church Erection seems to be regarded almost wholly in its material aspects. It is thought the spiritualities are all connected with the other causes. And hence, when necessity comes, and curtailments in contributions must be made, out of the list goes Church Erection first and always. It alone is commonly made to bear the deduction, and to bear it all. And the sufficient plea is, in answer to expostulation, "We have work at home." And this proves to be, as the report says, "anywhere from a hundred thousand dollar sanctuary down to a church fence or a coat of paint." Thus the Board of Trustees are left to great uncertainty as to what they may rely upon. If they make pledges, and fail to fulfil them, they put the church engaged in building in the worst of all possible positions before the community. For Church Erection involves business contracts, and bank notes, and promises to pay. And wherever a church fails to meet these, the cause of Christ suffers grievous hurt.

3d. Increased liberality is a third necessity. This cause should take its place in the sympathies and the generosities of our people, right by the side of the other leading causes. It should be lifted to a like conspicuity. It should go hand in hand with Home Mis[300]sions. It is a sister beneficence. Its claims are mission claims. Its success is evangelistic success. Its work, mission work. For it conserves mission work, economizes it, perpetuates it, gives it greatly increased efficiency. It is the visible and the structural about our Christianity. What could the soul do, in this world of sight and sense, without the body? What the body is to the soul, so is the church edifice to the church. Give a weak, struggling, houseless flock of God a sanctuary, and its effectiveness is almost immediately doubled; permanence is more certainly assured it; it passes straightway from a nursling, feeding at the breast of the Home Mission cause, to a vigorous self-support, contributing to the vitalities of the entire church. Give every organized church a house, and every minister a pulpit, dedicated to God, and the Church will at once rally to itself the best material that surrounds it, and the man of God will not wear out the best years of his life in preaching without the helps and sanctities of the sanctuary. Give this Board of our Church funds enough, and it will annually lift scores of our feeble congregations out of helplessness into helpfulness. Every dollar given to Church Erection is ten times that saved to Home Missions.

Here is a continent, vast and populous, stepping to the lead of the world's affairs with the stride of a young giant. It has already had unparalleled development. But the possible marvels of its future are almost infinitely beyond the achieved marvels of its past. Cities are being built almost in a day. Towns are dotting our Western prairies and mountain sides as by magic. Godless institutions keep pace with this development. Up go the structures, and out hang the signals where pleasure and passion and lust hold high carnival. These do not wait the accumulation of wealth before they build. Even Rome anticipates the march of empire, and promptly rears her altars in the new settlements to call men to the worship of the Virgin. Shall not the Church of Jesus Christ hasten to construct the visible tokens of the march of another and better empire, and by her consecrated Christian temples summon men to the worship of a greater than the Virgin? More than one hundred and fifty flocks stretch out their hands to-day for shelter. Far more than every dollar of the balance in the treasury of the Board is already pledged. God says to this host of his elect, "Go forward." The call is urgent; the field vast; the need imperative. One hundred thousand dollars is the least we ought to devote the coming year to this department of our denominational work.

Your Committee would therefore recommend, as expressive of the sense of this Assembly, the following resolutions:

1. That the Presbyteries are enjoined to take special oversight of their respective fields in connection with the interests of Church Erection, securing as far as possible an annual collection from all the churches, and urging upon them the great importance of this cause in its near and vital relations to the work of God in our land. [301]

2. That the Board be allowed an enlargement of discretionary power with regard to the amount of grants, and the disposition of exceptional cases.

3. That all contributions to this cause, whether general or special, should be made, as far as possible, through the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

4. That all special work, as well as the general appropriations of the Board, should be secured by lien, not only for the sake of security, but of denominational cohesion and stability.

The following persons are recommended to the Assembly to fill the vacancies reported by the Board: Rev. J. Fewsmith, D. D., Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham, for the full term of three years; and Rev. Norman Seaver, D. D., for two years, in the place of Rev. Arthur Mitchell, resigned.

The report of the Standing Committee on Education was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education respectfully report:

That the death of the Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., LL.D., a member of the Permanent Committee, is a great calamity to them and to the cause of Education for the Ministry, as well as to the cause of common school education, and especially to the cause of Biblical science. Next to the beloved and honored Barnes, who still survives, but who announces that his last work is done, Dr. Owen stood foremost in this Church as a scholarly and practical expositor of Scripture. Now that he is no more, it is a matter of devout gratitude that his valuable commentaries on the Gospels remain to perpetuate his wholesome influence.

The number of candidates for the ministry aided by the Permanent Committee, during the year now closed, is 210, five more than were aided during the previous year. Of these students, 63 were in Theological Seminaries, 103 in Colleges, and 44 in Academies.

The contributions received during the year by the Permanent Committee, from churches and individuals, were in all $24,037.97; $6,530.38, or 37 per cent. more than the amount received the year before.

The number of contributing churches was 372; a larger number than during any year since the Permanent Committee was instituted, and 95 churches, or 34 per cent., more than last year. But there still remain of non-contributing churches about three-fourths of the whole number of churches. But, notwithstanding this gratifying increase in the number of contributing churches and in the amount of contributions, the Permanent Committee found such a deficiency in their treasury, at the close of the year, that they could only make one-fourth of the final appropriation for the year to their students—ten dollars, for example, instead of forty to each of their theological beneficiaries. This is the only drawback to the otherwise very favorable record of [302] the Permanent Committee. But such a failure to meet the reasonable expectations of their students demands the prompt and serious consideration of the General Assembly. No fault is found, either with the Permanent Committee, or with their competent and efficient Secretary, and Treasurer. But it is easy to see, that repeated failures of this kind would quickly deprive the Church of all save the very small number of self-supporting candidates for the ministry. Religious young men, having a high sense of honor because they are religious, cannot long endure the pecuniary embarrassments to which such failures of necessity subject them. Moreover, they can not but feel that, when such failures are allowed to occur, they are treated by the Church of their affection with some degree of injustice, and so their confidence in that Church is weakened, and their respect for it diminished.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Permanent Committee be recommended so to arrange the business of the office, that the Secretary shall be at liberty to visit Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, and to use the agency of the press, in behalf of the important cause which he is appointed to represent.

2. That, since the engagement of the Permanent Committee with their students is of the nature of a contract, that Committee be authorized to borrow the money rather than to allow an appropriation either to be delayed or to fall short of the full amount promised.

3. That the Synods, Presbyteries, and churches be exhorted to remember, that the cause of Education for the Ministry is vital, not only to the welfare but to the very existence of the Church, as an external organization for the spread of the Gospel.

The Committee recommend the appointment of Rev. Dwight M. Seward, D. D., Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., William W. Wicks, James H. Benedict, and D. Willis James, to fill the vacancies of Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., Rev.

Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., William W. Wicks, Jesse W. Benedict, and Charles Taylor, whose terms of office expire with this General Assembly; and the appointment of Henry Ide, and William H. H. Moore, in the place of Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., and Fisher Howe, of the class of 1867, who have resigned.

The Rev. Joseph Fewsmith, D. D., Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, to serve three years, and the Rev. Norman Seaver, D. D., in the place of Rev. Arthur Mitchell, resigned, to serve two years.

The Rev. Daniel March, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., Rev. William T. Eva, Mr. John C. Farr, and Charles S. Wurts, M. D., were duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of the Presbyterian House, to serve three years.

Messrs. Joseph F. Joy, Joseph W. Lester, and Tredwell [303] Ketcham were elected Auditors of the Church Erection Fund for the ensuing year.

The report on the communication of the Delegate to the Assemblies of Scotland and Ireland was taken from the docket. The previous action, by which a portion of this report was adopted, was reconsidered, and the whole recommitted for report to the adjourned meeting in November.

The following report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures was adopted:

At the instance of an Overture from the Presbytery of Humboldt on the subject of Systematic Benevolence, this General Assembly record their deep conviction of the importance, not less to the churches themselves than to the benevolent causes to be aided, that all our congregations contribute regularly to each of the several enterprises undertaken and carried on by us as a Church; and each Presbytery is hereby earnestly requested, at their next regular meeting to seek out and adopt some plan, such as may seem best suited to the condition of their churches, whereby this desirable benefit may be secured.

A paper reported by the Committee on Bills and Overtures on the subject of the Opera, the Theatre, the Dance, and Card-playing, was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rev. William E. Moore, and Mr. Alexander Whilldin, to report at the adjourned meeting.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to its churches the observance of the week, beginning with the first Sabbath of January next, as a week of special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend the observance of the day of special prayer for Colleges and Seminaries of learning.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bill for stationery and printing, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

By a unanimous and hearty vote, the Assembly adopted the following resolution of thanks:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this General Assembly are hereby tendered to the citizens of New York, for the generous hospitality with which they have welcomed us to their homes, for the sympathy with which they have entered into our labors, and for the prayers with which they have supplicated the Divine blessing upon us and our sister Assembly. [304]

Also, to the Trustees of the church of the Covenant for the use of their house of worship; to the sexton; to the choir; and to the pastor; also to the Committee of Arrangements, who have so amply provided for our comfort.

Also, to the projectors of the social interview at Apollo Hall, and to all who have honored us with invitations to the various entertainments which have added so much to the relief of our more exacting duties.

Also, to the conductors of the daily press, whose records of our proceedings have been so faithfully made.

Also, to the directors of the several railroad companies, who have so facilitated our comings and goings.

And to all who have put a Christian greeting into their welcomes, and will doubtless put a Christian prayer into their farewells.

The Rev. Frederick A. Noble, Rev. Peter S. Davies, and Messrs. Richard Edwards, Wm. C. Aughinbaugh, and William Thaw were designated as a Committee of Arrangements for the adjourned meeting at Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ordered, That the Presbytery of South Carolina be, agreeably to their own request, attached to the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

A communication was received, conveying the fraternal salutations of the Methodist Preachers' Meeting of this city to the two General Assemblies. The Permanent Clerk was directed to return an appropriate acknowledgment on behalf of the Assembly.

The Roll was called, and the following persons were found to be absent without excuse:

Ministers—Norman Seaver, D. D., John Patton, D. D., Frederick R. Gallaher, D. D., and John Fisher. *Elders*—Horatio G. Torbert, M. D., Owen R. Bacon, and Philetus Fales.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

In accordance with previous action, the Assembly, with prayer, and the apostolic benediction by the Moderator, adjourned, to meet at the Third Presbyterian church, in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on the second Wednesday of November, A. D. 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER,
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1869.

It is of deep moment that, as a Church, we should form a correct estimate of the state of religion within our bounds. Thus far we have been occupied largely in completing our organization, and in equipping ourselves for the work to which the Head of the Church has called us. We stand to-day thoroughly organized and prepared for aggressive efforts, a harmonious, energetic Church. The position is not without danger. We may be tempted to forget, in the development of plans and the perfection of machinery, the necessity of preserving the spirit of the Church pure from worldliness, free from self-confidence, fervent in devotion, ardent in labors. Against an error so injurious, so perilous, we need to guard. No perfection of apparatus can compensate for the lack of the true spirit of Christianity.

It is greatly to be regretted that so many of our Presbyteries have failed to report to the Assembly. Scarcely less is it to be regretted that, of the ninety-six Presbyteries which have reported, with but few exceptions are these reports complete. Reports have been sent to this Assembly representing but five churches out of thirty-four, but thirteen out of twenty-two, but twenty out of thirty-four. Almost without exception, the churches, from which no reports have been received, are the weak ones of the flock; not only showing us that the Presbyteries have neglected the care of these feeble churches, but leaving us to form an over-estimate of the success of the year.

GROWTH.

With very few exceptions, the churches exhibit the most marked signs of outward prosperity. New edifices have been built in waste places. Old buildings have been enlarged and beautified, to accommodate increasing audiences, and to meet the requirements of becoming worship. Debts, that have long hindered growth and usefulness, have been paid during this past year. The number of parsonages has been increased, and the salaries paid to the ministers have, in not a few instances, been augmented. In nearly every Presbytery, it is reported that the number of attendants upon divine worship has increased, and that the utmost harmony prevails. Thus, though few marked and exterior revivals are recorded, we are called upon to bless God with devout gratitude for his favor.

SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

The Presbyteries report, with the most remarkable unanimity, that increased attention is paid to the Sabbath-school, as a part of the work of the Church. Large additions have been made alike to the number of the schools and the scholars. The Catechism of our Church has been made the basis of the lessons of not a few schools, and the Church, through its officers—the pastor and the elders—has guarded and guided the interests of the young. Greater care has been exercised in the selection of teachers, not only possessed of a proper spirit, but of knowledge and aptness to teach. Teachers' Institutes have been organized in many places with the most happy success. The result already appears in more numerous conversions among the children, saving them not only from infidelity and sin, but for the Church. Instances are recorded of entire classes being brought to the Saviour. Trained from their youth in knowledge and in labors, we may expect efficient laborers, both in the ministry and eldership, from those thus brought into the fold.

THE ELDERSHIP.

The reports of the Presbyteries indicate a growing sense of the importance and responsibilities of the eldership throughout the churches. Many sessions, no longer contented simply to sit as a board of counsel with the pastor, take an oversight of the Church of God, which has been committed to their care. Fairly applied, the system on which our Church is founded is proved to be just as efficient for its care and growth as it was under the Jewish economy, or in the first establishment of Christianity.

PERSONAL SERVICE.

Increasing attention has been paid to the development of Christian talent and zeal in good works. A growing feeling of obligation to serve Christ personally rests upon the minds of many members of our churches, which has been cultivated and directed by faithful pastors. The Church has opened a field for the occupation of pious women in their noiseless, tireless efforts to do good, which they have filled with faithfulness and devotion. The prayer-meetings of the churches have been well sustained. It has been found eminently useful and successful in many churches to divide these meetings into classes, and train up the youth of the Church in smaller circles. Freed from embarrassment by the presence of older members, they are now ready to take part in the service, and thus are developed into useful and working members of their churches.

TEMPERANCE.

It is gratifying to note how generally the churches have been interested in the subject of Temperance. No uncertain sound has been uttered by the pastors, and no timorous measures adopted by the churches. It is one of the most hopeful evidences of success, that the churches are depending more on themselves, to prevent and control intemperance, than on societies having no connection with them. The Church needs no secret and unordained society to preserve herself from this growing evil. She possesses the power, if she will exercise it, to purify herself and to keep herself pure.

REUNION.

Most fervent prayers are offered and wishes expressed, in these reports, for a Union between the two great branches of the Presbyterian Church. This desire is most earnestly expressed by our brethren in the West, who meet difficulties in this sad division, of which those at the East are almost unconscious. As indications of what may be expected when, in obedience to our Lord's prayer and manifested leadings, we become one Church, in two instances where such a union has been effected between one of our churches and one of the other branch, a plentiful outpouring of God's Spirit has indicated the approval of the Head of the Church. Several churches, formerly united with us on "the Plan of Union," have, with more or less opposition, become wholly Presbyterian. Others, though a less number, have been lost to us.

BENEVOLENCE.

Allowing for the growth of the Church, in numbers and in wealth, the benevolence of the Church has not materially increased. But one Presbytery reports a decided increase of from fifty to one hundred per cent. upon former years, while the greater part of the churches preserve about the same proportion.

CONVERSIONS.

But little definite information can be gathered, from the reports, of the aggressive work of the Church. One Presbytery alone makes mention of an effort to bring the power of Christianity and the restraining influences of our Church to bear on our colored brethren. One Presbytery records a greatly advanced work among the Indians, while another records the complete failure of Indian missions in their bounds. Several Presbyteries make mention of successful labor among the Germans. Of the work of our brethren on the Pacific coast among the Chinese, no report has been received. The frontier Presbyteries speak most courageously and cheerfully of their determination, by the help of the Lord, to occupy the land lying before them. Thirty new churches are reported to have been organized, and two stricken from the Rolls as disbanded, thus making only an increase for the past year, as reported to us, of twenty-eight churches.* One hundred and forty-four churches have enjoyed revivals of greater or less extent, twenty of which have each received over fifty new members by profession. These churches thus revived have been almost without exception in our cities and towns. One church—that with which the writer is now associated—reports that scarce any above the age of twelve years are unconverted. Last year the conversions averaged six for every minister, and about seven for every church in our bounds. Is this a result with which we should be satisfied? Is it too much to expect that in a year every member of the Church should bring one other soul to Christ?

One cry comes from all the West—for men, men of courage, self-denial, devotion, piety; men who love to lay foundations; men who are consecrated to the work of saving souls. The field is white to the harvest, while the laborers are few.

The Pastorate.

By far the most discouraging feature of all the reports is the relation of the ministry to the several churches. The one crying evil, far and wide, which hinders the efficiency of the Church, and prevents the zealous and affectionate labors of the ministry, is the system of sustaining stated supplies instead of pastors. One Presbytery has not a single pastor in its bounds; out of another, composed of thirteen ministers, but three are pastors; out of another, having ten churches, but one has a pastor. These sad statistics could be swelled in like proportion. Last year, over three hundred vacant churches were reported, and over seven hundred and fifty had stated supplies. Thus it is seen that but a little over one-third of our churches are served by pastors. From these pastorless churches the most discouraging reports sent to the Assembly are received. It is true, many of these churches are weak; but a pastor can be sustained far more easily than a stated supply. More of a spirit of benevolence on the part of churches could secure a permanent pastoral relation. The evil has grown in the churches until not a few are unwilling to have a permanent pastor, as binding them to his support. But the difficulty in this saddening recital, lies also with the ministers themselves. Greater consecration, more self-denial, truer love for souls, would secure a willingness to link the lives and hopes of the ministers with these feeble flocks, to increase their numbers, develop these fields, and build up churches on which others have not expended labors.

Growing Evils.

Many of the churches mourn over a growing spirit of worldliness, manifested in neglect of church service on one half of the Sabbath, in recreation and indolence on that holy day, in yielding to the principles of the world in business, and in following the fashions and pleasures of the world. While we have reason to be encouraged, we ought to rejoice with trembling. If but the right spirit actuated the Church, what an influence could be brought to bear on the world! What records of growth and usefulness would come to us year by year! For this let us pray.

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* The Home Mission Committee report 73 new churches for the year.

DECEASE OF MINISTERS.

During the past year the Church has lost by death the following thirty-three ministers:

NAME.	AGE.	DATE.	PLACE.	PRESBYTERY.
Avery, Abraham S.	76	Sept. 3, 1868.	Lawrenceburgh, Ind.	Pataskala.
Babcock, Hiram A.	65	June 6, 1868.	Wayne, Ohio	Grand River.
Bird, Thompson	65	Jan. 4, 1869.	Des Moines, Io.	Des Moines.
Brayton, Isaac H.	44	April 12, 1869.	Nevada City, Cal.	San Francisco.
Campfield, Nathan P.	30	Sept. 7, 1868.	Bellows Falls, Vt.	Onondaga.
De Long, Ira O.	43	May 30, 1868.	Palmyra, N. Y.	Ontario.
Downey, Thomas J.	41	Mar. 31, 1869.	Nelsonville, Ohio	Scioto.
Duffield, George, D. D	74	June 26, 1868.	Detroit, Mich	Detroit.
Dunning, Halsey.	50	Jan. 11, 1869.	Baltimore, Md.	District of Columbia.
Ewing, John C.	65	Dec. 14, 1868.	Winterset, Iowa	Des Moines.
Fine, Lambert S.	36	Mar. 5, 1869.	Troy, Pa.	Geneva.
Fitch, Octavius	67	Feb. 24, 1869.	Lawrenceville, Pa.	Wellsborough.
Freeman, George	73	July 27, 1868.	Parma, N. Y.	Rochester.
Hall, Lemuel	74	April 9, 1868.	Geneva, Wis.	Galena and Belvidere.
Kingsbury, Enoch	68	Oct. 26, 1868.	Danville, Ill.	Wabash.
Lemon, Alexander	55	Nov. 15, 1868.	Ripon, Wis.	Fox River.
Lippincott, Thomas	78	April 13, 1869.	Pana, Ill.	Alton.
McCorkle, Frs. A., M. D.	73	Mar. 17, 1869.	Greeneville, Tenn.	Holston.
Moase, John	75	Dec. 8, 1868.	Middleburgh, N. Y.	Catskill.
North, Alfred	62	Mar. 3, 1869.	Chilton, Wis.	Genesee.
Owen, J. J., D. D., LL.D.	65	April 18, 1869.	New York City, N. Y.	New York, Third.
Palmer, David F.	62	June 28, 1868.	Meadow Creek, Tenn.	Holston.
Parmelee, Alvan	66	Mar. 19, 1869.	Middlefield Cen., N. Y.	Watertown.
Peck, John	54	Nov. 24, 1868.	Paterson, N. J.	New York, Fourth.
Porter, Stephen	86	Aug. 28, 1868.	Geneva, N. Y.	Geneva.
Randolph, Benjamin F.	30	Oct. 16, 1868.	Cokesburgh, S. C.	Buffalo.
Reichman, John G., D. D.	57	Nov. 16, 1868.	Kalamazoo, Mich	Kalamazoo.
Riggs, Zenas	73	April 13, 1869.	Candor, N. Y.	Newark.
Taylor, Hutchins	78	Aug. 31, 1868.	Belvidere, Ill.	Galena and Belvidere.
Vail, Franklin Y.	71	June 23, 1868.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Cincinnati.
Walker, John	82	June 8, 1868.	Waverley, N. Y.	Monroe.
Whiton, John	70	Nov. —, 1868.	Wolcott, N. Y.	Lyons.
Woodruff, Jeremiah	68	July 25, 1868.	Lansing, Iowa	Dubuque.

The following Presbyteries have not reported to this Assembly: Catskill, Cedar Rapids, Chariton, Chicago, Hamilton, Kansas, Minnesota, Montrose, Newark, Ottawa, Ripley, St. Lawrence, San Francisco, San José, Nevada, Troy and Wilmington.

By order of the General Assembly.

PHILEMON H. FOWLER, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNIC'TS.			BAP'MS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.										STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Adults.	Infants.		Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Church Erection.	Min. Relief.	Freedmen.	Gen. Assembly.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
I. SYNOD OF ALBANY	1803	5	87	1	4	65	402	232	8,381	133	187	7,294	$8,692	$3,176	$732	$649	$2,708	$494	$236	$575 31	$118,427	$9,464	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	21	...	...	16	47	43	2,287	17	37	2,194	986	515	46	38	51	41	15	122 61	47,591	1,222	Edwin A. Bulkley, D. D.
2. Troy	1820	...	28	1	2	19	125	72	2,274	44	75	1,529	1,538	978	197	248	85	109	115	132 00	25,589	3,521	A. Bordman Lambert, D.D.
3. Albany	1791	...	18	...	...	10	68	60	1,629	16	34	1,847	4,910	600	352	215	2,225	100	25	126 80	19,992	1,176	Albert C. Bishop.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	...	6	31	17	791	10	12	556	208	455	92	25	100	100	25	66 90	13,323	1,688	John McVey.
5. Catskill	1851	...	14	...	2	14	131	40	1,400	46	29	1,168	1,050	628	45	123	247	141	56	127 00	11,932	1,857	Alvin Cooper.
II. SYNOD OF UTICA	1829	4	71	3	15	72	354	258	7,398	137	161	7,435	10,031	4,483	411	1050	622	277	352	478 36	86,491	11,006	William E. Knox, D. D.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	8	...	1	8	15	23	849	4	13	455	460	212	58	22	12	25	.....	47 16	4,940	592	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	...	5	19	106	63	1,806	45	32	2,070	957	726	111	106	183	100	.....	130 00	16,909	2,454	Richard G. Keyes.
3. Oswego	1823	...	6	...	...	9	25	11	812	7	8	729	285	311	9	208	141	.....	.....	33 06	6,330	3,131	Henry N. Millerd.
4. Utica	1842	...	39	3	9	36	208	161	3,931	81	108	4,181	8,329	3,234	233	714	286	152	352	268 14	58,312	4,829	Samuel W. Brace.
III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA	1855	4	70	15	16	63	292	167	8,273	159	64	5,569	6,060	4,827	1,012	489	963	180	557	537 95	111,841	15,849	Hiram H. Allen.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	13	...	...	21	63	33	2,445	34	15	1,210	2,588	1,868	462	160	299	96	352	130 90	13,204	10,802	John S. Bacon.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	32	13	16	20	143	76	3,010	70	31	2,356	1,904	1,540	356	205	330	64	201	233 36	80,309	1,683	Charles Hawley, D. D.
3. Cortland	1825	...	9	1	...	12	48	26	1,166	29	7	841	221	207	23	14	33	20	4	73 19	8,711	494	Huntington Lyman.
4. Tioga	1829	...	16	1	...	10	38	32	1,652	26	11	1,162	1,347	1,212	171	110	301	.....	.....	100 50	9,620	2,870	Solon Cobb.
IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA	1812	6	102	1	16	88	328	316	9,564	154	138	8,546	6,991	4,598	519	1111	1,112	408	528	701 34	120,069	7,543	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	33	...	...	18	53	97	2,750	31	28	2,665	2,747	1,553	189	127	240	198	46	220 16	31,554	3,813	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Steuben	1817	...	14	...	4	18	81	46	1,517	38	19	1,318	302	485	85	64	131	8	29	121 32	20,994	498	William A. Niles, D. D.
3. Chemung	1836	...	17	...	...	16	57	64	1,801	22	50	1,308	824	1,085	49	597	242	25	65	133 00	21,200	715	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	9	...	6	6	33	43	905	13	4	580	1,803	603	91	101	329	132	362	77 12	8,619	1,173	Theodore F. White.
5. Wellsborough	1845	...	12	1	1	13	15	11	657	5	8	563	39	48	26	15	17	10	18	33 00	3,958	45	James F. Calkins.
6. Lyons	1856	...	17	...	5	17	89	55	1,934	45	29	2,112	1,276	824	79	207	153	35	8	113 74	33,744	1,299	Arunah H. Lilly.
V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA	1853	3	37	...	3	38	157	79	3,336	58	38	3,147	1,065	1,374	266	161	417	163	35	210 20	53,218	1,783	Samuel N. Robinson.
1. Otsego	1820	...	16	...	2	16	81	32	1,362	18	15	1,130	459	786	98	105	......	68	.....	96 56	11,115	925	Charles Gillette.
2. Chenango	1826	...	11	...	...	11	46	23	1,013	28	7	1,101	419	357	82	12	15	33	35	63 64	12,727	500	William H. Sautelle.
3. Delaware	1831	...	10	...	1	11	30	24	961	12	16	916	187	231	86	44	402	62	.....	50 00	29,376	358	Leonard E. Richards.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE......	1821	6	138	7	12	106	853	496	14,310	358	225	16,532	11,191	9,735	1,162	886	3,312	996	1666	1179 62	200,838	11,492	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo....................	1817	...	46	2	6	27	184	160	3,830	51	72	5,407	4,522	3,421	293	132	499	230	386	352 00	94,936	3,941	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario....................	1817	...	23	1	2	11	44	48	1,654	25	26	1,438	740	735	156	176	108	116	.....	133 68	15,327	1,086	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester..................	1819	...	27	4	4	17	382	145	3,824	169	55	4,298	3,950	3,545	551	406	2,438	307	602	289 68	41,264	2,374	Charles E. Furman.
4. Genesee....................	1819	...	12	...	...	15	68	38	1,299	39	12	1,429	704	926	105	63	70	160	110	113 50	14,243	2,094	Joseph W. Hubbard.
5. Niagara....................	1823	...	17	...	...	17	148	57	2,459	65	39	2,355	922	704	11	49	75	151	.....	192 56	20,901	1,631	Edward P. Marvin.
6. Genesee Valley..........	1828	...	13	...	...	16	27	48	1,244	9	21	1,605	353	404	46	60	122	32	568	98 20	14,167	363	Isaac G. Ogden.
VII. S. OF N. Y. AND N. J....	1788	10	308	41	60	174	1909	1616	35,763	623	982	37,240	44,449	42,080	10,029	2628	13,528	9873	3565	2866 62	724,250	137,824	Obadiah M. Johnson.
1. Hudson.....................	1797	...	18	1	3	13	204	83	2,037	117	53	1,315	384	695	152	305	190	70	30	153 72	25,942	1,255	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River...............	1819	...	23	1	...	16	100	45	1,947	60	19	1,306	536	678	580	42	625	34	.....	159 28	26,521	3,127	Francis B. Wheeler, D. D.
3. Long Island...............	1791	...	9	...	1	6	78	12	740	40	6	775	117	262	123	42	27	22	2	53 44	7,724	405	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, Third........	1831	...	63	14	18	20	421	331	7,647	96	206	9,258	6,585	7,174	1,705	326	1,140	8491	904	589 28	150,402	27,429	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth......	1845	...	50	16	17	15	314	260	5,426	60	174	6,200	17,148	16,156	4,228	907	7,638	412	495	387 00	195,555	52,798	John Spaulding, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	30	3	5	10	194	359	4,447	53	117	4,454	8,578	5,409	1,808	279	1,124	78	60	453 00	100,632	17,316	Theodore S. Brown.
7. Newark.....................	1824	...	56	4	8	34	276	351	7,887	31	252	7,988	8,419	8,655	1,124	501	2,204	646	1760	643 20	142,513	30,820	J. Allen Maxwell.
8. Rockaway..................	1839	...	18	2	5	19	70	61	2,122	33	46	2,745	1,084	1,306	212	154	412	61	250	188 70	32,095	1,416	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose...................	1832	...	34	...	3	34	187	107	2,894	114	69	3,199	1,593	1,745	97	72	168	56	59	239 00	42,266	3,258	Adam Miller.
10. South Carolina	1869	...	7	...	...	7	65	4	616	19	40	......	5	......	......	....	......	.....	5	....	600	....	Thomas Thompson.
VIII. S. OF PENNSYLVANIA.	1838	5	121	7	18	95	1187	862	17,813	379	749	20,942	14,177	13,214	4,084	3314	3,965	3085	1759	1372 57	334,631	59,521	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington...............	1833	...	19	...	2	18	117	62	1,849	46	59	2,741	1,388	854	343	228	784	270	.....	146 77	19,849	1,064	John Crowell, D. D.
2. Philadelphia, Third...	1832	...	33	1	3	24	293	300	4,842	82	182	5,743	5,070	4,863	1,012	993	1,020	843	385	384 00	78,743	46,684	Beriah B. Hotchkin.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth..	1845	...	49	2	6	35	612	356	7,825	206	354	8,985	3,841	4,303	1,730	768	1,269	1048	362	582 80	177,621	9,614	Thomas J. Shepherd, D.D.
4. Harrisburgh..............	1839	...	11	1	1	9	59	70	1,391	17	60	1,746	3,269	2,214	880	1203	839	543	1012	117 00	27,149	2,269	Conway P. Wing, D. D.
5. District of Columbia...	1831	...	12	3	6	9	106	71	1,906	28	94	1,727	609	980	119	122	53	381	.....	142 00	31,269	890	George H. Smyth.
IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENN..	1843	3	33	2	15	34	161	130	3,661	44	136	4,012	5,095	2,594	1,538	448	1,047	516	1681	272 99	72,597	11,864	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	17	...	5	14	65	67	1,756	20	28	2,224	512	919	134	105	202	118	264	145 52	27,414	911	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville..................	1842	...	7	...	3	12	37	32	1,112	13	69	763	211	243	94	100	15	29	9	50 47	11,593	748	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh.................	1839	...	9	2	7	8	59	31	793	11	39	1,025	4,342	1,432	1,310	243	830	369	1408	77 00	33,590	10,205	Peter S. Davies.
X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN......	1834	9	130	6	10	133	745	678	11,468	282	269	13,165	6,647	3,666	1,229	670	3,966	318	652	846 81	221,372	9,636	William S. Taylor.
1. Detroit......................	1826	...	21	1	2	20	67	52	1,844	22	35	1,928	2,728	1,139	497	184	1,929	129	114	147 52	26,409	4,440	William A. McCorkle.
2. Monroe	1833	...	13	1	1	16	92	74	1,536	42	46	1,456	478	500	89	43	278	27	.....	90 12	26,943	282	William S. Taylor.
3. Marshall.....	1838	...	12	...	2	11	63	63	1,105	24	20	951	524	224	73	5	281	5	21	89 36	26,957	350	Loomis Chandler.
4. Washtenaw..	1838	...	12	1	1	8	55	62	1,392	30	28	1,063	389	315	155	112	462	12	31	107 72	19,391	817	William J. Erdman.
5. Kalamazoo................	1838	...	16	1	2	17	44	106	1,507	12	25	2,071	1,013	602	74	132	376	5	176	116 99	21,876	1,950	T. Dwight Hunt.
6. Coldwater.................	1856	...	12	1	...	12	108	83	1,341	57	21	1,720	349	227	59	45	47	62	200	99 76	34,402	363	Joseph A. Ranney.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	20	...	...	19	155	106	1,357	46	37	1,930	638	376	70	87	405	43	5	94 90	31,978	635	Henry H. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley....	1857	...	14	...	2	16	103	60	698	18	48	1,232	340	145	86	31	118	15	30	49 12	17,031	213	George Ransom.
9. Lansing.....................	1866	...	10	1	...	14	58	72	688	31	9	814	188	138	126	31	70	20	75	51 32	16,385	586	J. Evarts Weed.
XI. SYNOD OF W. RESERVE.	1825	5	93	3	24	75	341	311	6,891	123	175	8,299	3,461	5,132	1,289	523	1,487	502	116	513 09	112,282	8,019	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River..............	1814	...	10	...	...	7	34	9	664	16	8	489	134	200	27	34	75	14	55	50 80	5,329	258	Dexter Witter.
2. Huron	1823	...	19	1	4	18	64	40	1,510	23	46	2,088	370	687	145	18	37	37	43	93 05	26,475	1,022	Alfred Newton, D. D.
3. Trumbull..................	1827	...	13	...	...	15	65	55	1,239	24	37	1,148	293	402	21	9	117	69	2	102 36	15,774	1,489	Xenophon Betts.
4. Cleveland and Portage	1830	...	42	2	20	22	82	123	2,314	24	56	2,861	1,399	2,825	616	155	513	202	10	186 88	48,826	2,633	James Shaw, D. D.
5. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	...	13	96	84	1,164	36	28	1,713	1,265	1,018	480	307	745	180	6	80 00	15,878	2,617	Perry C. Baldwin.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNIC'TS.			BAP'MS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.										STATED CLERKS.
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Adults.	Infants.		Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Church Erection.	Min. Relief.	Freedmen.	Gen. Assembly.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.	
XII. SYNOD OF OHIO..........	1814	4	50	9	9	65	356	231	4,629	114	113	6,125	$2,822	$4,088	$1,285	$242	$973	$249	$170	$332 44	$81,223	$6,303	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens..........	1822	...	12	5	5	20	109	73	1,001	44	21	1,340	230	353	132	20	29	46	.....	71 44	11,405	275	Walter Mitchell.
2. Pataskala..................	1809	...	17	3	2	22	95	72	1,577	25	42	2,204	1,030	1,304	693	46	......	63	.....	126 48	41,206	1.807	Samuel P. Hildreth.
3. Franklin....................	1835	...	13	1	2	13	86	46	1,165	19	25	1,137	569	706	291	101	308	17	40	67 48	17,755	2,119	Oren H. Newton.
4. Scioto........................	1845	...	8	...	...	10	66	40	886	26	25	1,444	993	1,725	169	75	636	123	130	67 04	10,857	2,102	Eli P. Adams.
XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	1829	4	57	1	12	48	296	247	4,214	95	172	4,694	2,267	3,454	799	369	3,553	408	50	335 72	53,160	21,411	Joseph Chester.
1. Cincinnati..................	1828	...	28	...	5	16	114	110	1,570	19	62	1,968	1,604	2,312	510	145	3,266	277	.....	135 00	25,527	10,394	Joseph Chester.
2. Ripley......................	1838	...	8	...	2	11	112	31	954	47	34	650	143	198	70	13	26	.....	10	71 52	3,606	300	Daniel E. Bierce.
3. Dayton......................	1838	..	10	...	3	11	53	86	1,007	25	53	1,453	369	790	183	168	210	120	40	73 60	16,962	10,479	Henry Calhoun.
4. Hamilton....................	1846	...	11	1	2	10	17	20	683	4	23	623	151	154	36	43	51	11	.....	55 60	7,065	238	John Hussey.
XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA....	1826	4	49	2	16	62	280	205	5,138	100	205	5,868	2,180	2,702	616	219	701	357	189	405 91	69,132	3,740	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem........................	1823	...	9	1	3	13	87	40	1,511	30	67	2,558	975	1,125	309	77	275	120	152	121 00	18,074	1,542	Irving I. St. John.
2. Madison	1825	...	11	1	5	14	28	9	1,076	10	33	776	343	367	97	15	155	86	.....	91 60	9,139	570	Edward C. Johnston.
3. Indianapolis...............	1830	...	18	...	6	19	113	111	1,654	41	64	1,842	604	903	178	95	249	124	35	126 48	35,492	1,216	Archibald S. Reid.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	11	...	2	16	52	45	897	19	41	692	258	307	32	32	22	27	2	66 83	6,427	412	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.......	1851	4	39	2	10	56	242	123	3,401	94	87	3,384	943	917	376	130	516	103	254	241 36	28,342	3,637	George C. Noyes.
1. Crawfordsville............	1825	...	13	1	5	12	55	27	732	18	12	598	91	162	118	.....	16	19	.....	56 96	3,592	180	William N. Steele.
2. St. Joseph.............	1833	...	8	...	3	12	55	35	779	17	21	750	30	74	72	.....	20	.....	33	36 00	6,402	291	John B. Fowler.
3. Logansport	1835	...	10	1	2	21	64	28	1,273	23	33	1,256	538	484	72	70	290	16	206	99 92	11,729	2,996	Adolphus S. Dudley.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	8	...	...	11	68	33	617	36	21	780	281	197	114	60	190	68	15	48 48	6,619	170	William J. Essick.
XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS....	1831	4	88	4	18	101	424	414	6,475	150	179	9,097	3,308	2,402	661	743	813	248	129	500 42	85,713	7,029	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois........................	1828	...	20	2	3	18	89	83	1,812	39	59	1,958	860	1,110	341	309	136	72	120	146 88	16,407	1,976	George C. Wood.
2. Schuyler.....................	1833	...	16	...	3	20	65	79	1,318	18	17	1,621	639	630	162	33	329	55	.....	100 26	19,766	707	Edwin L. Hurd.
3. Wabash......................	1833	...	16	...	2	18	111	87	1,016	45	36	1,675	403	377	34	10	33	33	5	72 88	13,029	762	Edwin Black.
4. Alton	1836	...	36	2	10	45	159	165	2,329	48	67	3,843	1,406	285	124	391	315	88	4	180 40	36,511	3,584	Augustus Norton, D. D.
XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.....	1843	5	106	3	11	68	429	565	7,649	158	195	12,259	8,453	4,808	2,066	367	2,011	199	143	571 71	167,993	18,698	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Ottawa.......................	1834	...	13	...	...	9	59	20	603	22	9	780	117	93	31	13	60	17	7	52 55	6,715	463	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox.........................	1836	...	15	...	3	6	40	43	722	13	24	975	286	305	19	87	35	24	8	58 60	16,580	492	Samuel Wyckoff.
3. Galena and Belvidere.	1842	...	25	...	2	21	152	100	1,887	78	31	2,583	1,053	755	127	109	125	78	48	132 24	26,094	4,572	Eugene H. Avery.
4. Chicago	1847	...	46	3	6	21	137	321	3,466	33	99	6,672	6,607	3,452	1,838	142	1,632	7	80	252 80	95,160	12,880	David S. Johnson.
5. Bloomington	1847	...	7	...	...	11	41	81	971	12	32	1,249	390	203	51	16	159	73	.....	75 52	23,444	291	John Maclean.

XVIII. SYN. OF WISCONSIN...	1857	4	44	...	3	36	141	91	1,982	46	109	2,877	1,457	689	530	214	191	221	354	129 69	32,148	2,047	Benjamin G. Riley.
1. Milwaukee..................	1851	...	14	...	...	9	26	26	691	7	31	981	852	279	85	38	89	105	.....	36 85	8,851	308	George W. Elliott.
2. Fox River....................	1851	...	12	...	1	10	20	15	458	3	15	605	241	121	36	95	8	26	5	31 20	6,503	178	Silas H. Ashmun.
3. Columbus	1857	...	12	...	2	11	69	35	545	27	34	848	233	113	40	22	21	9	.....	39 64	5,765	126	Benjamin G. Riley.
4. Lake Superior............	1857	...	6	...	...	6	26	15	288	9	29	443	131	176	369	59	76	81	349	22 00	11,029	1,435	George W. Lloyd.
XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA	1853	7	64	2	9	73	164	332	3,395	52	116	4,412	725	479	512	59	324	55	32	263 69	76,940	2,365	Hannibal L. Stanley.
1. Des Moines.................	1845	...	5	1	2	7	18	64	372	13	8	470	50	40	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	32 10	6,389	561	Thomas O. Rice.
2. Keokuk	1852	...	6	...	...	5	12	19	302	3	15	480	93	74	27	.....	......	14	4	25 20	3,120	353	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
3. Iowa City....................	1852	...	11	...	2	11	19	37	332	6	19	510	93	28	11	2	13	5	21	23 34	7,071	330	Samuel Storrs Howe.
4. Dubuque......................	1855	...	13	...	2	15	45	52	884	11	26	925	166	189	454	17	234	22	.....	70 96	13,904	458	Stephen Phelps.
5. Chariton	1857	...	5	...	...	8	28	15	387	7	9	255	88	20	......	.....	11	14	7	29 60	1,592	90	Milton H. Dysart.
6. Cedar Rapids..............	1865	...	17	1	2	18	37	107	880	9	38	1,652	190	128	......	26	66	.....	.....	71 84	18,524	573	James Knox.
7. Omaha	1867	...	7	...	1	9	5	38	238	3	1	120	45	......	......	14	......	.....	.....	10 65	26,340	....	Francis M. Dimmick,
XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA...	1858	4	44	5	5	46	282	186	2,285	120	216	2,867	500	865	109	116	327	129	67	156 59	26,946	2,544	Jesse L. Howell. .
1. Mankato......................	1846	...	13	...	1	16	105	77	484	28	47	741	75	130	21	25	226	59	20	27 84	2,776	524	Moses N. Adams.
2. Minnesota	1850	...	15	...	...	13	53	43	670	15	43	1,261	302	588	58	81	68	52	43	48 91	17,745	1,573	John Mattocks.
3. Winona........................	1857	...	9	...	...	11	47	48	543	16	28	790	126	123	26	10	27	18	4	37 84	6,140	431	Joseph W. Hancock.
4. Dakota	1867	...	7	5	4	6	77	18	588	61	98	75	6	24	4	.....	6	.....	.....	42 00	285	16	John P. Williamson.
XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI....	1832	4	44	2	7	51	132	233	2,017	48	100	3,576	1,183	468	163	84	434	161	40	137 [illegible]6	22,084	6,888	Timothy Hill.
1. St. Louis......................	1831	...	14	...	1	12	57	43	919	16	56	1,916	756	310	112	29	376	161	25	67 88	13,368	644	Raphael Kessler.
2. Northern Missouri......	1845	...	6	2	3	10	13	19	303	8	24	520	170	78	23	.....	18	.....	.....	23 04	621	....	James A. Darrah.
3. Lexington....................	1842	...	16	...	3	14	30	105	535	10	12	485	128	80	28	50	31	.....	15	31 24	4,446	6,210	Elijah A. Carson.
4. Osage..........................	1845	...	8	...	...	15	32	66	260	14	8	655	129	......	......	5	9	.....	.....	15 00	3,649	34	John M. Brown.
XXII. SYNOD OF KANSAS.....	1869	3	24	...	...	21	55	108	572	10	28	1,064	188	48	1	7	32	1	19	39 25	7,555	2,546	[None.]
1. Kansas...	1859	...	10	...	...	11	17	26	297	1	10	315	63	26	......	6	21	.....	.....	22 25	625	1,930	William H. Smith.
2. Humboldt	1868	...	7	...	...	4	18	53	111	5	4	384	64	5	......	.....	5	.....	6	9 00	5,775	609	Theodore F. Jessup.
3. Smoky Hill..................	1868	...	7	...	...	6	20	29	164	4	14	365	61	17	1	1	6	1	13	8 00	1,155	7	Isaac T. Whittemore.
XXIII. SYNOD OF TENN'SEE.	1817	3	17	...	10	38	78	37	2,523	56	75	1,982	129	263	49	4	......	23	.....	228 24	10,501	139	Thomas J. Lamar.
1. Union	1797	...	6	...	7	17	14	9	1,508	46	32	844	20	106	24	.....	......	.....	.....	124 56	2,988	....	William H. Lyle.
2. Kingston......................	1838	...	7	...	...	10	31	17	406	3	20	740	79	25	25	2	......	.....	.....	50 00	5,052	93	William B. Brown.
3. Holston........................	1865	...	4	...	3	11	33	11	609	7	23	398	30	132	......	2	......	23	.....	53 68	2,461	46	Samuel V. McCorkle.
XXIV. SYNOD OF ALTA CAL.	1857	3	29	...	...	23	99	129	1,422	16	68	1,878	354	302	54	8	8	.....	.....	101 39	49,184	1,950	Edw'd B. Walsworth, D.D.
1. San Francisco............	1849	...	11	...	...	6	47	61	556	11	29	876	206	190	......	.....	......	.....	.....	37 00	40,933	1,913	David McClure.
2. San José	1857	...	9	...	...	10	37	48	412	4	27	627	71	57	......	8	8	.....	.....	39 44	460	....	Wilbur McKaig, D. D.
3. Nevada.......................	1857	...	9	...	...	7	15	20	454	1	12	375	77	55	54	.....	......	.....	.....	24 95	7,791	37	George Pierson.

II. OF THE SYNODS.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	COMMUNICANTS.			BAPTISMS.		S.-S. Membership.	FUNDS.									
							Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole Number.	Adults.	Infants.		Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	Church Erection.	Min. Relief.	Freedmen.	General Assembly.	Congregational.	Miscellaneous.
1. Albany	1803	5	87	1	4	65	402	232	8,381	133	187	7,294	$8,692	$3,176	$732	$649	$2,708	$491	$236	$575 31	$118,427	$9.464
2. Utica	1829	4	71	3	15	72	354	258	7,398	137	161	7,435	10,031	4,483	411	1,050	622	277	352	478 36	86,491	11,006
3. Onondaga	1855	4	70	15	16	63	292	167	8,273	159	61	5,569	6,060	4,827	1,012	489	963	180	557	537 95	111,844	15,849
4. Geneva	1812	6	102	1	16	88	328	316	9,564	154	138	8,546	6,991	4,598	519	1,111	1,112	408	528	701 31	120,069	7,543
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	37	...	3	38	157	79	3,336	58	38	3,147	1,065	1,374	266	161	417	163	35	210 20	53,218	1,783
6. Genesee	1821	6	138	7	12	106	853	496	14,310	358	225	16,532	11,191	9,735	1,162	886	3,312	996	1,666	1,179 62	200,838	11,492
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	308	41	60	174	1909	1616	35,763	623	982	37,240	44,449	42,080	10,029	2,628	13,528	9,873	3,565	2,866 62	724,250	137,824
8. Pennsylvania	1838	5	124	7	18	95	1187	862	17.813	379	749	20,912	14,177	13,214	4,084	3,311	3,965	3,085	1,759	1,372 57	334,631	59,521
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	33	2	15	34	161	130	3,661	44	136	4,012	5,095	2,594	1,538	448	1,047	516	1,681	272 99	72,597	11,864
10. Michigan	1834	9	130	6	10	133	715	678	11,468	282	269	13,165	6,647	3,666	1,229	670	3,966	318	652	846 81	221,372	9,636
11. Western Reserve	1825	5	93	3	24	75	341	311	6,891	123	175	8,299	3,461	5,132	1,289	523	1,487	502	116	513 09	112,282	8,019
12. Ohio	1814	4	50	9	9	65	356	231	4,629	114	113	6,125	2,822	4,088	1,285	242	973	249	170	332 44	81.223	6,303
13. Cincinnati	1829	4	57	1	12	48	296	247	4,214	95	172	4,691	2,267	3,154	799	369	3,553	408	50	335 72	53,160	21,411
14. Indiana	1826	4	49	2	16	62	280	205	5.138	100	205	5,868	2,180	2,702	616	219	701	357	189	405 91	69,132	3,740
15. Wabash	1851	4	39	2	10	56	242	123	3,401	94	87	3,381	943	917	376	130	516	103	254	241 36	28,342	3,637
16. Illinois	1831	4	88	4	18	101	424	414	6,475	150	179	9,097	3,308	2.402	661	743	813	248	129	500 42	85,713	7,029
17. Peoria	1843	5	106	3	11	68	429	565	7,649	158	195	12,259	8,453	4,808	2,066	367	2,011	199	143	571 71	167,993	18,698
18. Wisconsin	1857	4	44	...	3	36	141	91	1,982	46	109	2,877	1,457	689	530	214	194	221	354	129 69	32,148	2,047
19. Iowa	1853	7	64	2	9	73	164	332	3,395	52	116	4,412	725	479	512	59	324	55	32	263 69	76,940	2,365
20. Minnesota	1858	4	44	5	5	46	282	186	2,285	120	216	2,867	509	865	109	116	327	129	67	156 59	26,946	2,544
21. Missouri	1832	4	44	2	7	51	132	233	2,017	48	100	3,576	1,183	468	163	81	434	161	40	137 16	22,084	6,888
22. Kansas	1869	3	24	...	...	21	55	108	572	10	28	1,064	188	48	1	7	32	1	19	39 25	7,555	2,546
23. Tennessee	1817	3	17	...	10	38	78	37	2,523	56	75	1,982	129	263	49	4	....	23	....	228 24	10,501	139
24. Alta California	1857	3	29	...	...	23	99	129	1,422	16	68	1,878	354	302	54	8	8	....	....	101 39	49,184	1,950
		113	1848	116	303	1631	9707	8016	172,560	3509	4787	192,264	$142,377	$116,364	$29,492	$14,491	$43,013	$18,966	$12,594	$12,998 43	$2,866,940	$363,298

MINUTES, 1869.

Pittsburgh, Pa., November 10th, 1869.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to adjournment, in the Third Presbyterian church of the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on Wednesday, the 10th of November, 1869, at 11 o'clock A. M., and having occupied half an hour in devotional exercises, was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The Roll was then called, and the following persons were found to be present:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain,*	George T. Everest.	
2. *Troy,*		Elijah G. Atwood, William P. Bliss.
3. *Albany,*	Henry Darling, D. D.,	Samuel Anable.
4. *Columbia,*	David R. Frazer.	
5. *Catskill,*	George A. Howard.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence,*	John Waugh.	
2. *Watertown,*	John B. Preston,	William P. Massey, M. D.
3. *Oswego,*	Henry N. Millerd,	Daniel W. Ingersoll.
4. *Utica,*	Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., S. W. Fisher, D. D., LL. D.,	Thomas Williams.

III. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga,*	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.	
2. *Cayuga,*	Ezra A. Huntington, D. D., Marcus N. Preston,	Sylvester Willard, M. D., Hon. John Porter.
3. *Cortland,*	John V. C. Nellis.	
4. *Tioga.*		

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IV. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva,*	David Magie,	Harvey Rice, Ebenezer B. Jones.
2. *Steuben,*	Joel Wakeman, D. D.,	Paul C. Howe.
3. *Chemung,*	Augustus W. Cowles, D. D.,	Hon. William T. Jackson.
4. *Ithaca,*	Alexander O. Peloubet,	Abram G. Opdyke.
5. *Wellsborough,*	Frederick Graves,	Hon. Henry W. Williams.
6. *Lyons,*	Robert E. Willson,	Henry M. Clark.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego,*	Charles Gillette.	
2. *Chenango,*	Sumner Mandeville.	
3. *Delaware,*	Charles H. De Long,	Marsena Benedict.

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	George W. Tew.
2. *Ontario*,	Levi Parsons,	Orrin S. Gilbert.
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Frederick Starr,
	Alexander McA. Thorburn,	Louis Chapin.
4. *Genesee*,	John Wickes.	
5. *Niagara*,	Edward Payson Marvin,	William F. Evans.
6. *Genesee Valley*,	Corliss B. Gardner.	

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	George Pierson,	Jesse Roe.
2. *North River*,	Edgar W. Clark,	George Bates.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Stuart T. Terry.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Robt. Russell Booth, D. D.,	Stephen H. Thayer.
	Thomas Street,	
	James B. Bonar,	
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	William Adams, D. D., LL.D.,	Hon. William E. Dodge,
		George W. Lane,
	Howard Crosby, D. D.,	William A. Cummings.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel Carlile,	Nathan Lane,
		Harrison Teller, M. D.
7. *Newark*,	Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.,	William F. Van Wagenen,
	Charles T. Haley,	Hiram B. Littell,
		Frederick G. Burnham.
8. *Rockaway*,		Hon. Daniel Haines.
9. *Montrose*,	Charles S. Dunning,	
	Jacob G. Miller.	
10. *South Carolina*,	Silas McKinney.	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	John Patton, D. D.,	Edward T. Taylor.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	William E. Moore,	Hon. William Strong.
	Z. M. Humphrey, D. D.,	
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	Robert Adair,	Samuel T. Bodine,
	Richard Allen, D. D.,	Charles M. Lukens,
	Herrick Johnson, D. D.,	Peter L. Krider.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing, D. D.,	Peter Wilson.
5. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Byron Sunderland, D. D.,	J. Faris Moore. [483]

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	George W. Cleaveland,	Absalom M. Carson.
2. *Meadville*,	Richard Craighead,	Daniel Uber.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	William T. Wylie,	William C. Aughinbaugh.

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Albert E. Hastings,	Hon. Jacob S. Farrand.
2. *Monroe*.		
3. *Marshall*,	Thomas Sherrard,	Hon. George H. French.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Gustavus L. Foster,	Gershom B. Gillett.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	John Sailor,	Daniel O. Roberts.
6. *Coldwater*,		Albert A. Luce.
7. *Saginaw*,	Archibald McSween,	Youngs E. Benton.
8. *Grand Riv. Val.*,	Louis Mills,	Henry Griffin.
9. *Lansing*,	J. Evarts Weed,	Joseph Mills.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Grand River,*	Dwight K. Steele,	Oramell H. Fitch.
2. *Huron,*	William T. Hart.	
3. *Trumbull,*	Xenophon Betts,	Jonathan Warner.
4. *Cleveland and Portage,*	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., James Shaw, D. D.,	Hon. John A. Foot, Thomas D. Crosby.
5. *Maumee.*		

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens,*	Henry W. Ballantine,	Marcus Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala,*	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.,	Timothy Rose.
3. *Franklin,*	John W. Thompson,	John McElroy.
4. *Scioto,*	E. Perkins Pratt, D. D.,	David C. Anderson.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati,*	Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., George M. Maxwell, D. D.,	Guernsey Y. Roots.
2. *Ripley,*	Henry Osborn,	John West.
3. *Dayton,*	Rollin A. Sawyer,	Daniel Keifer.
4. *Hamilton,*	Benjamin W. Chidlaw,	John Irwin.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem,*	Charles Hutchinson,	Joseph Loughmiller.
2. *Madison,*	Manuel J. Drennan.	
3. *Indianapolis,*	Alexander Parker.	
4. *Green Castle,*	Blackford Condit,	R. Wilds Jones.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville,*	Caleb Mills, LL.D.,	John Foster.
2. *St. Joseph,*	George C. Noyes.	
3. *Logansport,*	Amos Jones.	
4. *Fort Wayne,*	Henry L. Brown,	Hon. John L. Knight.[484]

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois,*	Smith H. Hyde,	John Crocker.
2. *Schuyler,*	William W. Whipple.	
3. *Wabash,*	Russell D. Van Deursen.	Eben H. Palmer.
4. *Alton,*	James W. Stark,	David E. Beatty, Lewis Potter.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa.*		
2. *Knox,*	Edward H. Curtis.	
3. *Galena and Belvidere,*	Josiah Leonard,	Thomas Wilson, Calvin A. Shaw.
4. *Chicago,*	Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Arthur Mitchell,	Claudius B. Nelson, Royal E. Barber.
5. *Bloomington,*	Charles H. Palmer,	Benjamin E. Miles.

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee,*	John Martin,	Owen R. Bacon.
2. *Fox River.*		
3. *Columbus,*	Warren Mayo,	Ephraim G. Stitt.
4. *Lake Superior.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Des Moines.*		
2. *Keokuk.*		
3. *Iowa City,*	Abner D. Chapman,	William Ballantyne.
4. *Dubuque.*		
5. *Chariton,*	John Fisher.	
6. *Cedar Rapids,*	John Summers,	Benjamin K. Adams.
7. *Omaha.*		

XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Mankato,*	Moses N. Adams,	William P. McMasters.
2. *Minnesota.*		
3. *Winona,*	Delos E. Wells,	Andrew B. Coe.
4. *Dakota,*	Stephen R. Riggs.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *St. Louis,*		James M. Brawner.
2. *Northern Missouri,*	Thomas H. Tatlow,	Homer H. Winchell.
3. *Lexington,*	Elijah A. Carson,	Charles F. Smith.
4. *Osage,*	Seth G. Clark,	G. Whitelow Shield.

XXII. SYNOD OF KANSAS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Kansas,*	Victor M. King.	
2. *Humboldt,*	James Lewis.	
3. *Smoky Hill,*	J. Levis Jones.	Benj. F. Thayer, M.D. [485]

XXIII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Union,*	Isaac Emory,	Benj. A. Blackburn.
2. *Kingston,*		William S. Patton.
3. *Holston,*	Nathan Bachman.	

XXIV. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *San Francisco.*		
2. *Nevada.*		
3. *San José,*	William W. Brier,	David Huber.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Assembly of the other Branch,*	Rev. Charles C. Beatty, D. D., LL.D., Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., LL.D.

Several persons appeared with new Commissions, and their case was referred to the Committee on Commissions.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that the morning session open at 9 o'clock A. M., and close at 12 o'clock M.; that the afternoon session open at 2½ o'clock, and close at 5 o'clock P. M.; and that the first hour of the morning session be occupied with devotional exercises.

The report was adopted.

The Stated Clerk presented the report of the Presbyteries on the Overture for Reunion, as follows:

Report of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the answers of the Presbyteries to the Overtures on the Reunion of the two branches of the Church:

The number of Presbyteries connected with this General Assembly is one hundred and thirteen. Official responses have been received from every one of them. They have all answered the Overture in the affirmative. In each of the Presbyteries of Albany, Wellsboro, and the District of Columbia a single negative vote was cast. In each of the remaining one hundred and ten Presbyteries the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 19*th*, 1869.

The Assembly united in prayer and thanksgiving to God for this auspicious result.

The Rev. Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., and Hon. John A. Foot were appointed to announce to the other Assembly the vote of the Presbyteries of this body on the Overture for Reunion. [486]

Mr. Henry Day appeared as a deputation from the other Assembly to communicate their action with reference to the reception of new Commissioners, as follows, namely: "That alternates, chosen before the meeting in May last, take the place of absent principals; and also that principals take the place of enrolled (absent) alternates." Whereupon,

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted: Having already referred the new Commissions to the Committee on Commissions, and having since received a communication from the General Assembly, now meeting in the First Presbyterian church, relative to the subject of the constituency of the present Assemblies; therefore be it *Resolved*, that the Hon. William Strong, Hon. Daniel Haines, and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham be added to the Committee on Commissions, to whom the whole subject shall be referred.

Resolved, That all matters requiring the concurrent action of the two Assemblies be referred to the Joint Committee of Conference on Reunion, to report to the Assemblies, respectively, the mode of procedure, and also to report a programme of joint religious services.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Wednesday, November 10*th*, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee, to whom the Commissions of new members were referred, reported, recommending that the following persons, having furnished evidence of appointment by their respective Presbyteries, in accordance with the rule previously adopted by this Assembly, be enrolled as members of this body:

Champlain,	R. S. Cate,	*Elder.*
Troy,	Asahel Bronson,	*Min.*
	Samuel M. Wood,	*Min.*
Catskill,	Henry Waterbury,	*Elder.*
Utica,	John C. Gallup, M. D.,	*Elder.*
Tioga,	David D. Gregory,	*Min.*
Geneva,	Samuel H. Gridley, D. D.,	*Min.*
Otsego,	Parker Scott,	*Elder.*

Buffalo,	Horace P. Bogue,	*Min.*
	Elijah H. Danforth,	*Elder.*
Genesee Valley,	Hon. Alfred Lockhart,	*Elder.*
Brooklyn,	Theodore S. Brown,	*Min.*
Newark,	James P. Wilson, D. D.,	*Min.*
Rockaway,	Elijah W. Stoddard,	*Min.*
Montrose,	James Dixon,	*Elder.*
Monroe,	Joseph Zwindt,	*Min.*
	Enoch Tindall,	*Elder.* [487]
Maumee,	James W. Ross,	*Elder.*
Madison,	Edwin G. Whitney,	*Elder.*
Schuyler,	Clark B. Church,	*Elder.*
Alton,	George I. King, D. D.,	*Min.*
Knox,	Lucius L. Day,	*Elder.*
Galena and Belvidere,	John McLain,	*Min.*
Omaha,	John M. Peebles,	*Min.*
Minnesota,	Edward B. Wright,	*Min.*
	Henry M. Knox,	*Elder.*
Saint Louis,	Charles A. Dickey,	*Min.*

The report was adopted.

The Hon. William Strong was appointed to communicate to the other Assembly the action of this Assembly on the reception of new Commissioners at this adjourned meeting.

The Special Committee to whom was referred a paper on the subject of Amusements presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The question of popular amusements is one that cannot be settled by statute. It has to do with the spirit and the life of Christianity, rather than with the letter of its law. Hence the impossibility of specific enactment. But the very fact of its near and vital connection with spiritual life justifies, and demands for it, a thoughtful consideration.

What scriptural guidance have we in the matter? What posture ought the Church to assume towards so-called popular amusements? A sweeping condemnation of them would be a sweeping folly. To say of them all, that they are inherently and positively sinful, is simply to say what is not true. And to protest against suitable recreation would be to protest against a mental and moral necessity. A long-visaged and sombre-hued piety is not after the order of the Gospel. That makes recognition of the laugh, the joy of life; has no frown for the play-side of our nature; bids us serve the Lord with gladness. Nowhere so much as in the heart of God's people should joy have her home, and go rippling out in the channels of deed and speech.

But what is suitable Christian recreation? We are without a specific "Thus saith the Lord" for each specific form of pleasure. But this is by no means to acknowledge that we are without scriptural guidance. The spirit is broader and deeper than the letter. There are general principles whose profound and subtle reach makes it impossible that they should be framed by a law. Those that bear on this question of popular amusements are three:

I. The first general principle has respect to the relation which Christians sustain to each other. It is discussed in Rom. xiv., and in 1 Cor. viii. Christian liberty in things indifferent is there distinctly recognized. But it is bounded and limited by a higher law. We must not abuse our liberty to the offence of our [488] brethren. We must bridle our knowledge with charity. We are bidden to beware how we tamper with the sanctities of a brother's conscience, and to beware how we trifle with the necessities of a brother's weakness. The law of conscience and the law of love are far more sacred, and more precious, and more to be regarded, than the law of liberty. To the child of God they ought to be always paramount. To assert independence at the expense of wounding a brother's conscience, is "to sin against Christ." "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth." Of course, a merely personal, puerile, wretched scrupulosity is not to be foisted upon the Church, for its government. But amusements, whose tendencies are inherently and almost inevitably to excess, where the weak and the unstable may stumble and perish, and against which there is a general Christian conscience, are decisively condemned by this plain word of God.

II. The second general principle has respect to the relation which Christians sustain to the world. It is negative, and summed up in this, "Be not conformed to this world." It is a relation of non-conformity. Christians are to be unlike the world, and distinguishable from it. This idea of separateness runs through all the warp and woof of Scripture. And it clearly does not imply a separation from the grossly evil of the world. This is specifically and positively commanded. Christians are pledged and sworn to obedience by their very profession. The separation involved in non-conformity is from worldliness—from the worldly spirit. It is a demand that the whole tone and bent and current and spirit of the Christian life shall be different from that of the worldly life; so different, that it shall be manifest to the world that the people of God are pilgrims and strangers on the earth; that they are walking with God; that they are a peculiar people, called out of the world while still remaining in it; God's witnesses; living epistles; the salt of the earth; distinctive, chosen, set apart, recognizable everywhere as having been with Jesus, and as holy in all manner of conversation. Let Christians apply to their lives this one central, prominent, gospel idea of non-conformity; let them press it on all their conduct, until they give unmistakable exhibition of the spirit of these unmistakable words of Christ and the apostles, and it will go very far to settle this whole question of rational or irrational amusements.

III. The third general principle has respect to the relation which Christians sustain to Christ. It is positive, and summed up in this, "Whatsoever ye do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus." Broad, comprehensive, universal in its applicability, yet most specific, after all, in its fundamental condition, "Whatsoever ye do." In another place, applied to the every-day necessity and act of our life—eating and drinking. Applicable, therefore, to our recreations. It is scriptural condemnation of every form of social diversion in which a Christian cannot indulge "in the name of the Lord Jesus." It is divine [489] indorsement of whatever is done by a child of God; into which he may go, and out of which he may come, and through the progress of which he may continue, without there being one moment, when it would be in any way inconsistent for him to ask his Lord's approval of him there, and of what he is doing, and witnessing, and countenancing, and supporting.

Let this principle be honestly and conscientiously applied. It will settle many a doubt. It will condemn many a popular amusement. It bars out every indulgence that cannot be had in consistent and loving remembrance of our Lord. Amusements that undermine the health, and waste vitality; amusements by which the weak and the lame are so often turned out of the way, only to stumble and perish; amusements that make it appear as if God's children were as eager after, and as intent upon the gayeties and festivities of the world as the children of the world themselves; amusements making it essential for Christians to take positions that ought to bring, if they do not bring, the blood to their faces; amusements that compel Christians to witness scenes, and hear quips and jests, soiling their spirits with suggested uncleanness; these all, and all like these, are branded with condemnation by this divine precept. No true disciple of Christ can give himself to such amusements "in the name of the Lord Jesus."

We close as we began. This whole question must be taken out of the domain of abstract casuistry. It is not so much a question of absolute right and wrong as of conscience and charity. The spirit of our life is far more important than the letter of our law. The rule of love is higher than the law of liberty. Christianity antagonizes worldliness; it does not conform to it. The Church should deal with it, not so much by the axe of discipline as by the sword of the Spirit. Yet, without a doubt, the very law of love may sometimes require a kind, considerate, thoughtful exercise of the disciplinary power of the Church. But our chief appeal must be to the conscience. Our main reliance must be on the spirit and the life demanded by a whole-hearted surrender and commitment to the Lord Jesus. Those who are constrained by the love of Christ can scarcely allow themselves indulgence in any business or recreation, any work or play, into which, and through which, and out of which, they cannot consistently go, with ever present and affectionate remembrance of Him "who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify us unto himself, a peculiar people zealous of good works."

The report was also recommended to the Presbyterian Publication Committee for publication.

Messrs. Guernsey Y. Roots and Nathan Lane were appointed to fill vacancies in the Standing Committee on Mileage.

Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., and Mr. Henry M. Knox, were appointed to fill vacancies in the Committee on Bills and Overtures. [490]

A communication from the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Historical Society was read, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Rev. John Waugh, Rev. Levi Parsons, and Mr. Albert A. Luce were appointed to prepare a minute on the members who have deceased since the adjournment of the Assembly, in May last.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, November 11th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and occupied the opening hour with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A paper on State appropriations to Roman Catholic schools was referred to the Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., William P. Massey, M. D., and Mr. Frederick G. Burnham.

A communication from the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions was referred to the Standing Committee on that subject.

The Rev. Robert R. Booth, D. D., was appointed Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions, to fill a vacancy.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented the following report on an Overture respecting the creation of a Sustentation Fund:

To the Overture from the Presbytery of Kansas, commended by the Synod of Kansas, asking that measures be taken by this General Assembly to provide a Sustentation Fund, by which the salaries of our ministers may be secured and equalized,

The Assembly would reply by referring to its answer given to similar Overtures at its sessions last May, and recorded on page 262 of the Minutes.

This answer is given not at all to express opposition to this Overture, which treats of a subject of vital importance to our whole Church, but in view of the propriety of originating specific action, upon such a momentous matter, in the united Church.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported on the communication from the Presbyterian Historical Society as follows: [491]

In reply to a communication from the Presbyterian Historical Society, asking for an appropriation of funds for the erection of a building suited to its uses, and also for an endowment the income of which will enable the Society to prosecute its work successfully, the Assembly refers to its former commendations of its objects and results, but cannot feel at liberty, in the present circumstances of the Church, to make any specific recommendation for action on the subject above named.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

A member of the Dakota Presbytery requests that, in view of the peculiar constitution of that body, as the elders speak only their native tongue, and cannot attend the meetings of the Assembly as acting members, one half the assessment made upon that Presbytery for the Commissioners' Fund be remitted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures recommend to the Assembly for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Mileage Committee be instructed to remit, in behalf of the Dakota Presbytery, the amount of their assessment for the Commissioners' Fund, and to appropriate to the members of that Presbytery, in attendance at the present sessions of the Assembly, their full share of the above-named fund.

The Special Committee on the report of the Assembly's Delegate to the Assemblies of Scotland and Ireland presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the General Assembly's Delegate to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and to the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church, would respectfully report:

That they find in this paper several suggestions which they deem eminently worthy of the consideration of the General Assembly, and which, in their opinion, are calculated, if carried into effect, to enlarge the influence and promote the prosperity of our branch of the Church.

The suggestions referred to relate to the propriety of opening a correspondence with those branches of the Presbyterian family in Great Britain with which we have, up to this time, had no formal or official communications. And they further propose an inquiry as to the wisdom of attempting to embody, in our practical polity, such institutions and customs as have been found useful and salutary among these sister churches of the Presbyterian order.

I. In reference to the proposition for an enlarged correspondence with the Presbyterian Assemblies of Great Britain, the Committee would recommend, that it be referred to the next [492] General Assembly, with the request that such action be then taken, as will bring all these different branches of the Presbyterian family abroad into more intimate and regular intercourse with the Presbyterian Church in the United States, to the end that mutual sympathy may be promoted, and that each may, if possible, obtain increase of practical power and efficiency from the wisdom and experience of the other.

II. In reference to the suggestions, contained in the report, which relate to the propriety of an attempt to embody, in our practical polity, such institutions and customs as have been found useful and salutary among these sister Churches of the Presbyterian family, the Committee would recommend, that they be referred to the Committee to be appointed to promote the greater efficiency of the United Presbyterian Church, and that the attention of that Committee be especially directed to the following points:

1. Is it practicable, and would it be advantageous, to introduce some method which shall engage the whole Church in the effort to regulate the support of its ministers, and to provide, from a general fund, a sum which should be paid to each pastor, as a minimum of compensation for pastoral service?

2. Would it be advantageous to originate some provision, by means of which the church properties should be controlled by the Church itself, rather than by Boards of Trustees appointed from the congregation?

3. Would it be desirable that measures be taken to secure uniformity among all our churches in the mode of admission to the fellowship of the Church, and in the administration of the ordinances—Baptism and the Lord's Supper?

4. Would it be desirable to have prepared special Forms for use in the Marriage and Burial Services, which might be adopted by the ministry, at their option, as occasion may require?

5. Can any plans be suggested for increasing the effective participation of the membership of our churches in the different methods of Christian work which we have undertaken, and more especially of increasing system and thoroughness in benevolent contributions to the objects recommended by the General Assembly?

6. Is it not desirable to adopt the rule of the Scotch Churches, allowing only pastors and those engaged in the direct and immediate work of the Church, votes in Presbyteries, and representation in the General Assembly?

The Special Committee on Manses presented the following report, which was adopted:

Whereas, The importance of making a decided effort to secure for every Presbyterian minister a manse cannot be over-estimated, therefore,

Resolved, That the Moderators of the Presbyteries be instructed [493] to inquire of the churches under their care what has been done, or what is proposed to be done, to secure manses for pastors; and that the results of said inquiries be appended to the report on the Narrative of the State of Religion sent up by the Presbyteries to the next General Assembly.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, November 11*th*, 2½ *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee to whom was referred the paper on State appropriations to Roman Catholic schools presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly, observing with the profoundest concern the attempts that are now being made in various portions of our country, not only to remove the Bible from the place that it heretofore, generally, has had in our common schools, but also to secure from the State the pecuniary support of sectarian schools—schools under the exclusive control of the Church, and designed to teach the peculiar tenets of its theology and ecclesiasticism —desire to draw to these facts the special attention of their constituency.

Should this movement be successful, it must obviously ultimate in the complete disintegration and final destruction of our present admirable system of common school instruction, a system that is the glory of our land, and that has already brought to it inestimable blessings. Moreover, as this movement for sectarian legislation is entirely in the interest of Romanism, it will, if successful, be so far a virtual establishment of that religion as the state religion of our land, securing from the public treasury, to which all our citizens contribute, the religious as well as the secular education of all its youth.

The Assembly would, therefore, earnestly request of their constituency to employ all the instrumentalities properly within their reach to avert from our country so fearful a calamity. Through the pulpit and the press, and by the presentation to our State legislatures of petitions and remonstrances, let the voice of our people be heard on this great subject, so vital to the highest interests of Christianity and liberty.

The Special Committee on Unemployed Ministers and Vacant Churches reported, recommending that the subject be referred to the next Assembly. The report was adopted. [494]

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions reported on the communication from the Permanent Committee. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions would respectfully report on the paper emanating from the Permanent Committee of the Assembly, which was referred to them,

That, in view of the fact that the appropriations of the American Board to the support of its missions have been made in advance for the year ending September, 1870, and that not only great embarrassment to the Prudential Committee, but also great injury to the cause of Missions would result from a sudden contraction in the receipts of the Board, the passage of the following resolutions is recommended:

1. *Resolved*, That the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions be requested to urge upon the churches hitherto contributing to the American Board, that they do not withhold their contributions from it during the present fiscal year.

2. *Resolved*, Further, that the Permanent Committee be also directed to call the attention of our churches to the sixth article of the concurrent resolutions passed by the two Assemblies at the May meeting in New York, which reads as follows: "There should be one set of Committees or Boards for Home and Foreign Missions and the other religious enterprises of the Church, which the churches should be encouraged to sustain, though free to cast their contributions into other channels if they desire to do so."

Since in this resolution the Assembly has presented its matured and well-balanced judgment in regard to the future relations of our churches to the method in which the work of Foreign Missions should be carried on,

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration our relations to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, to report to the next General Assembly such measures as to them may seem proper and expedient for the adjustment of those relations to the new posture of our affairs.

As such *Committee*, the Assembly appointed the Rev. Messrs. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Robert R. Booth, D. D., and Messrs. Robert S. Williams and William E. London.

The Special Committee on the Union of the several Presbyterian bodies in this country presented a report, which was amended, adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, That, rejoicing in the immediate Reunion of the two Presbyterian bodies so long separated, we would gladly hail a Pan-Presbyterian Union, embracing all branches of the Presbyterian family holding to the same Confession of Faith and Form of Government. [495]

Resolved, That all uniting with us may freely enjoy the privilege of using such songs of praise to Almighty God as their consciences may dictate, as indeed is already allowed to and variously enjoyed in and by the several congregations now in our communion.

The Committee on Deceased Members reported a minute, which was adopted and is as follows:

The Committee appointed on Deceased Members of Assembly would respectfully report:

Since the meeting of this General Assembly at New York in May last, the Great Head of the Church, who says, "Behold I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give unto every man as his work shall be," has taken from us three of those who participated with us in that memorable gathering, namely, Rev. F. R. Gallaher, D. D., of the Presbytery of Coldwater; Elder H. G. Torbert, M. D., of the Presbytery of Utica, and Elder Loring Danforth, of the Presbytery of Buffalo.

While we remember that we are commanded not to sorrow for those who have fallen asleep in Jesus, we cannot but regret the withdrawal of such needful laborers from the Master's earthly work, never more inviting or needful than now; regret because they have not been permitted to witness that consummation of Reunion for which they prayed and voted. Nevertheless, as we regard them as gathered to the Reunion of all the saints in glory, we would repress our tears, and express our sympathy for the dear relatives whom they have left below, deprived of their fellowship and support; praying God to sustain them in this loss by his watching providence and paternal love, and to enable all of us to be more diligent in the work to which he has appointed us.

The Joint Committee on the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Joint Committee of Conference on Reunion met on the 10th of November, 1869, at the lecture-room of the First Presbyterian church.

The following resolutions and plans of procedure for the consummation of the Reunion of the Churches were adopted and recommended as proper to be passed by the respective Assemblies.

1. That each Assembly should declare the vote of the Presbyteries in the following language:

"This Assembly having received and examined the statements of the several Presbyteries on the Basis of Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, which basis is in the words following: [496]

'The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical basis of our common standards. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. The Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity:'—

"Do hereby find and declare, that the said Basis of Reunion has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with this branch of the Church.

"And, whereas, the other branch of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, now sitting in the First Presbyterian church, Pittsburgh, has reported to this Assembly that said basis has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with that branch of the Church.

"Now, therefore, we do solemnly declare that said Basis of Reunion is of binding force."

2. That this Committee do recommend that a Special Committee of five from each branch of the Church shall be appointed to take into consideration the affairs of each of the Boards and Committees of both branches of the Church, to recommend to the Assembly of the United Church, next to be held, what changes are required in said Boards and Committees.

3. That each Assembly also pass the following:

Whereas, It is apparent, from the size of the two Assemblies, that some changes must be made in the method of representation; therefore,

Resolved, That each of the Assemblies of 1869 do appoint a Committee of five, to constitute a Joint Committee of ten, whose duty it shall be to prepare and propose to the General Assembly of the United Church a proper adjustment of the boundaries of the Presbyteries and Synods, and the ratio of representation, and any amendments of the Constitution, which they may think necessary to secure efficiency and harmony in the administration of the Church, so greatly enlarged and so rapidly extending.

4. That the Assemblies do meet at 9 o'clock on Friday morning next, and that the vote of the Presbyteries be declared in each Assembly at 10 o'clock, and that each Assembly be then dissolved in the usual manner prescribed by the Form of Government. That each Assembly do immediately repair to ——, there to hold a joint meeting for prayer and praise, and that a joint communion service be held on the same day, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. That all business before each Assembly shall be concluded on this (Thursday) evening, and no new business be taken up. That a Committee of Arrangements, of two from each Church, be appointed to decide upon the form, manner, and place of our public meeting, and that a statement on the subject of raising funds for the use of the Church be also prepared for said meeting by said Committee of [497] Arrangements; and that the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., Rev. A. G. Hall, D. D., Mr. Robert Carter, and the Hon. William E. Dodge be said Committee. That the first meeting of the Assembly of the United Church be held in the First Presbyterian church of the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1870.

That a Committee of five be appointed from each branch of the Church, to take into consideration the subject of raising funds for the use of the United Church, and the best methods of doing the same, and the objects to which the same should be directed; and to report at the next General Assembly.

That a joint meeting on the subject of Home Missions be held this evening in the First church, and to-morrow evening in the Third church, on Foreign Missions, at 7½ o'clock.

The reports of the Delegates to the Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church, to the General Conference of Maine, to the General Association of New Hampshire, to the General Convention of Vermont, to the General Association of Massachusetts, to the General Association of Connecticut, and to the General Synod of the Reformed Church, were presented, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported on an Overture with reference to the mode of uniting churches of the two branches, as follows:

That no recommendation be made at this time by this Assembly on the subject presented, but that it be left for the consideration of the Assembly of the United Church in 1870, and that in the mean time no action affecting the title to any of the property of the churches be taken, except under the advice and with the consent of the Presbytery with which churches taking such action are now connected.

The Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., and Mr. William G. Crowell were appointed to act in conjunction with a like number of the other Assembly, as a *Committee of Arrangements* for the next Assembly, with power to add to their number.

The Mileage Committee presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

They have received for Commissioners' Fund, including balance from May, 1869		$7473.21
They have paid bills for the necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners	$5947.16	
Incidental expenses of Committee	7.80	
		$5954.96
Balance on hand		$1518.25

[498]

Eighty-six Presbyteries have paid their assessment in full.

Ten Presbyteries have paid but a part of their assessment, namely: Champlain, St. Lawrence, Onondaga, Tioga, Lyons, Chenango, Rochester, Trumbull, Logansport, and Chicago.

Seventeen have paid nothing, namely: Troy, Watertown, Oswego, District of Columbia, Meadville, Coldwater, Franklin, Hamilton, Ottawa, St. Joseph, Fox River, Lake Superior, Des Moines, Keokuk, Dubuque, San Francisco, and Nevada.

Having received a sufficient amount from the Presbyteries, and having the requisite authority from the Assembly, your Committee have paid the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners entitled thereto in full.

The Committee recommend that our churches be assessed seven cents per member to defray the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners of the General Assembly to meet in Philadelphia in May, 1870.

Resolved, That the Minutes of these sessions of the Assembly, with the Appendix, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk, and that copies be sent as usual to those Presbyteries who have paid their full assessment to the Commissioners' Fund.

The bills for stationery and printing, for the services of the janitor, and for the traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this general Assembly be hereby tendered to the citizens of Pittsburgh, for the generous hospitality with which they have welcomed us to their homes, for the sympathy with which they have entered into our labors, and for the prayers with which they have supplicated the Divine blessing upon us and our sister Assembly; to the pastor and Trustees of the Third Presbyterian church; to the Joint Committee of Arrangements for their ample provision for our comfort; to the conductors of the daily press, and to the many railroad companies who have generously remitted so much of the expense of travel.

The Standing Committees severally reported that they had no other business, and were discharged.

The Minutes of this session were read and approved.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [499]

Friday, November 12th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Moderator announced the following as the several Committees referred to in the report of the Joint Committee of Conference on Reunion, adopted by the two assemblies:

1. *On Reconstruction.* Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D., and Rev. Joseph F. Tuttle, D. D.

2. *On Raising Funds.* Hon. William E. Dodge, Hon. William Strong, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. William H. Goodrich, D. D., and Rev. Charles Hawley, D. D.

3. *On Home Missions.* Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., Rev. Arthur Mitchell, Hon. Henry W. Williams, LL.D., and Hon. Jacob Farrand.

4. *On Foreign Missions.* Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D. D., Rev. Robert R. Booth, D. D., Rev. Franklin A. Noble, Hon. Joseph Allison, LL.D., and Mr. Isaac Scarritt.

5. *On Education.* Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. John G. Atterbury, D. D., Rev. Edward D. Morris, D. D., Mr. Alexander Whilldin, and Mr. Truman P. Handy.

6. *On Publication.* Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, D. D., Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, D. D., Rev. John W. Dulles, Mr. James M. Brawner, and Hon. John S. Knight.

7. *On Church Erection.* Mr. George W. Lane, Rev. Frank F. Ellinwood, D. D., Rev. Cornelius H. Taylor, D. D., Mr. Oliver H. Lee, and Mr. Samuel T. Bodine.

8. *On Ministerial Relief.* Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D., Rev. Charles Brown, Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., Hon. Charles Noble, and Mr. Robert W. Steele. [500]

9. *On Freedmen.* Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Mr. William Thaw, and Mr. Joseph W. Edwards.

The calling of the Roll at the close of this session was dispensed with.

The Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., LL.D., and Mr. Henry Day appeared as a deputation from the other Assembly, and presented the following communication:

"PITTSBURGH, November 12th, 1869.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, holding its sessions in the First Presbyterian church, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, holding its sessions in the Third Presbyterian church:

"We hereby certify that the vote of the Presbyteries connected with this Assembly on the Overture in regard to Reunion is as follows:

"In favor of the Overture for Reunion and approving the same, one hundred and twenty-eight Presbyteries; in the negative, three Presbyteries; and thirteen Presbyteries which have not reported. And we further certify, that more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries in connection with the General Assembly have approved of the Basis of Reunion mentioned in said Overture.

"WILLIAM E. SCHENCK,
"*Permanent Clerk.*"

The hour of ten having arrived, the following declaration was, by rising vote, unanimously adopted:

This Assembly, having received and examined the statement of the votes of the several Presbyteries on the Basis of Reunion of the two bodies now claiming the name and the rights of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, in the words following, namely, "The Reunion shall be effected on the doctrinal and ecclesiastical Basis of our Common Standards; the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be acknowledged to be the inspired word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; the Confession of Faith shall continue to be sincerely received and adopted as containing the system and doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and the Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States shall be approved as containing the principles and rules of our polity," does hereby find and declare, that said Basis of Reunion has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with this branch of the Church; and, whereas, the other branch of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, now sitting in the First Presbyterian [501] church in the city of Pittsburgh, has reported to this Assembly that said Basis has been approved by more than two-thirds of the Presbyteries connected with that branch of the Church,—

Now, therefore, we do solemnly declare that said Basis of Reunion is of binding force.

After the offering of solemn praise and thanksgiving, the business of the Assembly having been completed, and the vote taken for the dissolution of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved, and required another Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at the First Presbyterian church, in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1870.

J. GLENTWORTH BUTLER,
Permanent Clerk.

APPENDIX.

THE REUNION CONVENTION.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Friday, November 12th, 1869.

THE two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, meeting respectively in the First and Third churches of Pittsburgh, Pa., having both been in due form dissolved on Friday, November 12th, 1869, at 10 o'clock A. M., a joint convention, in accordance with previous mutual agreement, was held immediately after in the Third church.

The members of the late N. S. Assembly, preceded by their Moderator, Clerks, and Reunion Committee, formed in order, two by two, and proceeded from the Third church down Sixth avenue to Wood street, and took position on the west side of the street, opposite the First church. At the same time, the members of the late O. S. Assembly, preceded in like manner by their Moderator, Clerks, and Reunion Committee, came forth from the First church and took position on the east side of the street, directly opposite the other column, the head of each line looking south towards Fifth avenue.

The following gentlemen had been appointed, and consented to serve as Marshals of the day: Gen. J. K. Moorhead and Messrs. John D. McCord, William Rea and George H. Stuart.

The signal for the march having been given, the two Moderators met in the middle of the street, shook hands, and joined arms; as was done also by the Stated Clerks, the Permanent and Temporary Clerks, the two Reunion Committees, and the remainder of the two columns—the joint procession meanwhile marching forward, two by two, Old and New School interlocked along the whole line, down Wood street and up Fifth avenue, Smithfield street and Sixth avenue, (the whole distance attended by a rejoicing crowd of people,) to the Third church.

As the procession entered by the right middle aisle, Wesley's noble hymn,

"Blow ye the trumpet, blow," etc.

was sung by the choir and the ladies who had been previously admitted to seats assigned them. The greater part of the procession found seats on the immense platform occupying the southern end of the great church, the remainder occupying the pews in front of the platform; after which the doors were opened, and the house was immediately thronged to its utmost capacity.

The services commenced at 11 o'clock A. M., and were continued with unwearied interest for more than three hours. Addresses were made by the Moderators and others, both ministers and elders, previously designated, intermingled with prayer and songs of devout praise and thanksgiving.

The following preamble and resolutions, reported in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, by the Rev. S. Wm. Fisher, D. D., LL.D., were passed unanimously:

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN JOINT CONVENTION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE TWO ASSEMBLIES—NOV. 12, 1869.

In the Providence of God, the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, after a separation of more than thirty years, are again united. This event, in its magnitude, is unparalleled in the ecclesiastical history of this country and almost of the world. It evidences to all men the presence and unifying power of the Divine Spirit. A fact so remarkable and significant attracts interest and creates expectation among even worldly minds. It awakens the sympathies and the hopes of all who truly love Christ among other denominations. It awakens hope, since it illustrates the evident purpose of God to bring all his followers into closer union in spirit, combine them in action for the overthrow of error and the diffusion of his truth; it awakens expectation, since they justly anticipate, on our part, from this union of resources, spirit, and action, a far more vigorous assault upon the forces of darkness and more decided efforts to spread the Gospel among all classes in our own and other lands.

To us, as a Church, it is an era in our history most memorable and hopeful; memorable, as it signalizes the triumph of faith and love over the strifes and jealousies of more than a quarter of a century; hopeful, since it is not the result of decadence and torpor, but of progress and augmented strength. It buries the suspicions and the rivalries of the past, with the sad necessity of magnifying our differences in order to justify our separation. It banishes the spirit of division, the natural foe of true progress. In this union are seen the outflashing of a divine purpose to lead us on to greater self-sacrifice, and a more entire consecration to the evangelization of the world. God has elevated us to this commanding position, that we may see his glory, and in the strengthened faith it inspires devote our united resources more directly and efficiently to the salvation of men. New and grander responsibilities rest upon us. Jesus summons us to a holier faith and more perfect consecration. He summons this Church to answer his loving-kindness by deeds commensurate with our renewed resources. The times are auspicious; everywhere peace reigns; the gates are open, and the millions of our own and other lands wait for the Gospel. Our position is commanding; our resources great; our methods of action well settled, simple, and efficient. The Spirit of God that has united us will inspire, direct, and bless our efforts. While we maintain the faith which Paul so fully unfolded, and our Church, in the centuries past, has, through manifold persecution and martyrdom, so gloriously upheld, we are summoned, as by the will of God, to arise and build, to form new, broader, and bolder plans for the extension of Christ's kingdom, and to enter upon and execute them with apostolic enthusiasm.

Let us then, the ministers, elders, and members of this Church here assembled, as, in spirit, standing in the presence of and representing the entire body of believers in our connection, and the beloved missionaries in foreign lands who now await, with tender and prayerful interest, this consummation of our union,—let us, in humble dependence upon our dear Redeemer, with deep humility in view of our past inefficiency and present unworthiness, and as an expression of our devout gratitude to Him who has brought this once dissevered, now united Church up to this Mount of Transfiguration, signalize this most blessed and joyous union with an offering in some good degree commensurate with the abundant pecuniary gifts that He has bestowed on us. And, to this end, be it

Resolved, That it is incumbent on the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, one in organization, one in faith, and one in effort, to make a special offering, to the treasury of the Lord, of five millions of dollars: and we pledge ourselves, first of all, to seek in our daily petitions the blessing of God to make this resolution effectual; and second, that we will, with untiring perseverance and personal effort, endeavor to animate the whole Church with the purpose to secure the accomplishment of this great work before the third Thursday of May, 1871.

Resolved, further, That the Stated Clerks of the Assemblies of 1869 be requested to publish this paper, with the names of the Moderators, Clerks, the Joint Committee on Reunion, and the Commissioners now in attendance, appended thereto.

At 3½ o'clock P. M., the Convention united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper at the First Presbyterian church, which also was thronged in every part.

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